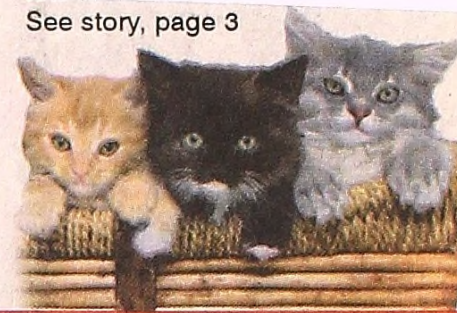


DATE DUE

THE ROMULUS ROMAN

See story, page 3



News in brief

Airport begins summer projects

The Wayne County Airport Authority will begin spring/summer runway rehabilitation work on each of the four parallel runways at Detroit Metropolitan Wayne County Airport.

The work began Monday, and will result in intermittent closures of the runways. The temporary changes will result in modifications to air traffic flow arriving and departing the airport.

"Metro Detroit residents are no strangers to 'construction season'," said Wayne County Airport Authority CEO Lester Robinson. "While the Airport Authority recognizes that this critical runway rehabilitation work may result in some temporary inconvenience for some of our neighbors, we appreciate the support of local communities who recognize the importance of these projects for the long-term viability of our region and for the local jobs they create."

At any given time until mid-June, at least one of the runways will be closed for work, airport officials said. Work will consist of replacing existing slabs, crack sealing, painting, electrical work, and re-paving.

During construction, aircraft operations usually assigned to a closed runway will be reassigned by the Federal Aviation Administration Air Traffic Control Tower to one of the other three parallel runways.

These temporary closures will not create any new flight tracks, but will result in an increased number of operations on existing tracks.

Residents with any questions or concerns regarding these temporary closures may contact the Airport Authority Noise Manager at (734) 753-2202.

Romulus resident honored for volunteerism

As part of the continuing commitment to celebrating the contributions of volunteers across campus, Central Michigan University (CMU) Volunteer Center has announced the March recipients of the Volunteers are Central honors.

Three CMU students – including Romulus senior Rebecca Mercado – were recognized for creating the East Coast Walkers. The group plans to walk from Miami to Boston during the summer to raise money to fund rape evidence exams for the Isabella County Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner. The walkers hope to draw attention to the problem of sexual aggression.

More details about the Volunteers are Central program can be found on its Web site, <http://www.volunteer.cmich.edu/varecentral.php>.

For more information about the East Coast Walkers, visit <http://www.eastcoastwalkers.com>.

Starfish names two to board

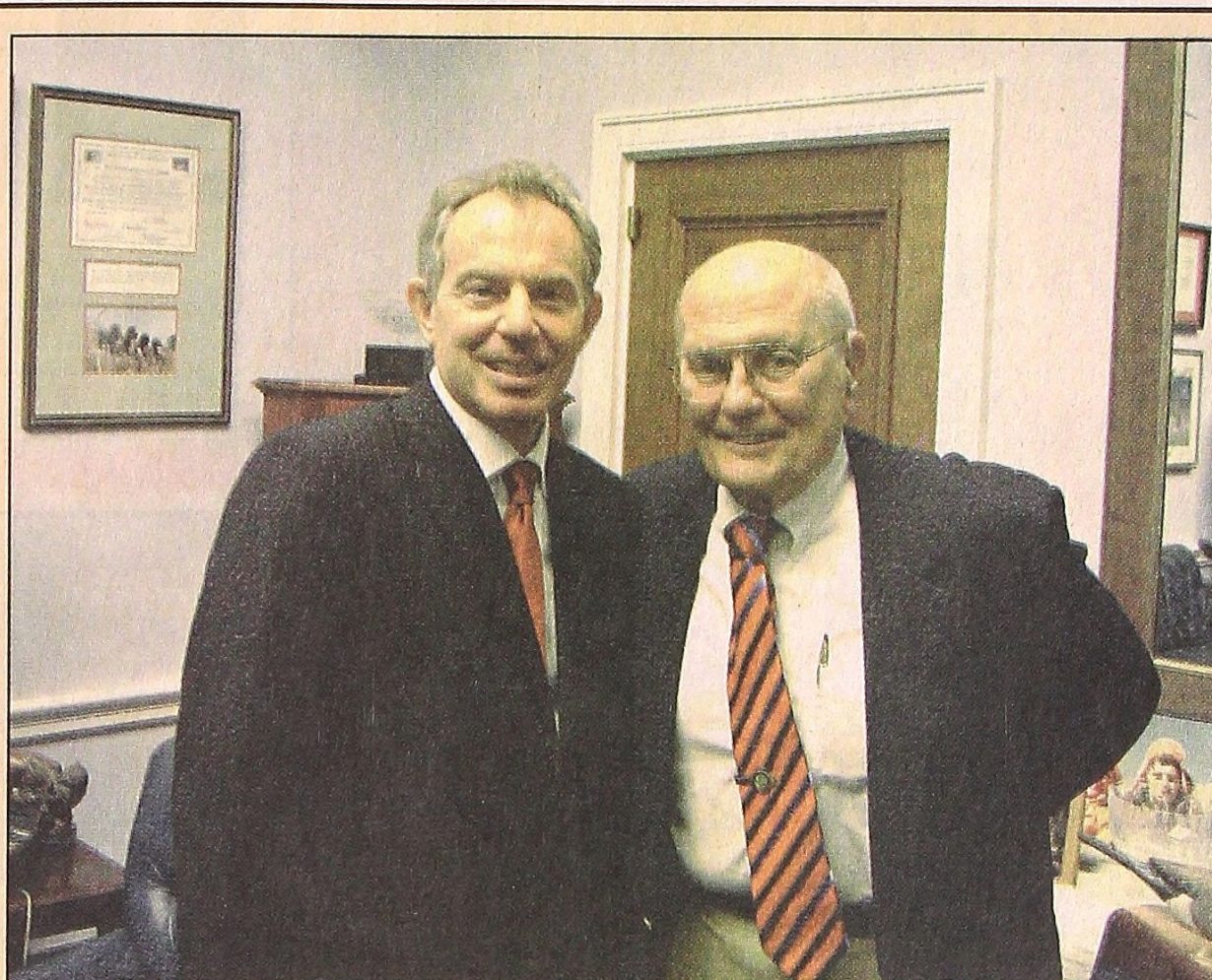
Starfish Family Services, a human service agency serving families in Southeastern Michigan, has appointed two new members to the board of directors. Rebecca Boylan and

More News briefs, page 4

Vol. 120, No. 17

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Warm welcome

U.S. Rep. John Dingell had a chance to meet with former British Prime Minister Tony Blair during Earth Day events in Washington D.C. Dingell, who participated in Earth Day activities earlier this week, said there needs to be a more aggressive approach to protecting the environment.

Officials hopeful about proposal

Molly Tippen
Staff Writer

Beleaguered homeowners facing the prospect of foreclosure may get some help if new legislation introduced by U.S. Rep. John Dingell is approved by Congress.

The Federal Housing Administration Housing Stabilization and Homeownership Retention Act of 2008 – or H.R. 5830 – would allow homeowners to refinance their principle residence provided that their mortgage was originated prior to Dec. 31, 2007.

Other provisions for eligibility require the borrower's mortgage debt-to-income ratio be at least 35 percent as of March 1, 2008, and the existing lender agrees to waive any penalties or fees associated with the existing mortgage and accept a substantial write-down.

Dingell, who introduced the legislation last week with Massachusetts Democrat Sen. Barney Frank, said the bill is especially important in Michigan's 15th District, which is made up of several western Wayne County municipalities and is gripped by a record number of foreclosures.

"This legislation represents a fair, common sense solution that will allow homeowners to stay in their homes, and help stabilize the housing market," Dingell said. "The lenders will not get a bailout, but their losses under this program will be far less than if these properties go into foreclosure."

Dingell added that similar legislation was approved during the New Deal era in the 1940s. That program, Home Owners' Loan Corporation (HOLC), was part of an overall effort to stabilize the economy.

Race track gets big incentives

Molly Tippen
Staff Writer

A plan for a planned race track in the area known as the Pinnacle Aeropark in Huron Township has proved to be a double edged sword for Romulus officials, who worked for years to have a horse racing track within the city.

On Tuesday, Gov. Jennifer Granholm announced the approval of \$41.6 million in state and local tax capture to be used by the Wayne County Brownfield Authority for development of the \$72-million Pinnacle Race Course on 240 acres at Interstate 275 near Sibley Road in Huron Township.

Ground was broken April 4 for Phase 1 of what will be the only thoroughbred racetrack in Michigan when it opens July 18.

The support from the state, is something the City of Romulus did not have when it attempted to develop Michigan Downs, a multi-million thoroughbred racing track slated for a parcel of land near Interstate 94. The deal fell apart

when Magna, the Canadian firm that was developing the project, backed out of the deal in 2007 after it received a lower than expected income report.

Tim Keyes, the city economic development director, said Romulus officials did not seek help from the county or from the state when Magna project was still a go.

"We didn't pursue that as a city, but Magna made their decision based on performance factors, and it was a final decision," he said. "It's not like Huron Township came in and stole the track from us – that's not how it happened. The Huron project came along long after Magna (backed out of the deal). Now, we're going to move forward."

Local leaders in Romulus and the rest of Wayne County are hoping a race course at the Pinnacle property – which has seen little activity during the past 10 years – will stimulate other activity that will bring jobs to a regional battered by the loss of automotive

jobs.

"Any development that happen on underutilized land in and around the city of Romulus is a good thing," Keyes said. "We have the area along Pennsylvania Road zoned mostly for light industrial."

Wayne County Executive Robert A. Ficano also believes the race track will be a boon for Southeast Michigan.

"The location of the Pinnacle Aeropark makes Wayne County a great site for this world-class thoroughbred race course," he said. "This was a collaborative effort from local, county and state governments recognizing a sense of urgency to make something happen in this region. This project will make Wayne County a tourism destination and serve as a catalyst for further development at Pinnacle Aeropark."

The largest share of the funding to support the course will come from Wayne County. The county investment equals \$28 mil-

See Track, page 4

See Proposal, page 4

Farm Days planned at Maybury to celebrate spring

Scott Spielman
Editor

The sudden departure of Phil Lowry from the Maybury Farm won't have an adverse impact on the season opening activities.

Shari Peters, executive director of the Northville Community Foundation, said the 'Farm Days' celebration will go ahead as scheduled on May 3-4.

"We're going to have a lot of things going on," said Peters. The Northville Community Foundation has overseen the operation of the farm at Maybury State Park since it reopened more than two years ago.

Lowry, along with veterinarian student Laura Roberts, have headed up efforts to get the farm back up to running shape since the beginning of the year. Lowry, a farmer who moved to Michigan recently from Ohio, abruptly

resigned more than a week ago, however.

"He never even spoke to me," said Peters. "There was just a letter laying on the floor: I was totally blindsided."

She said Roberts, who has worked on the farm since last fall, is still coming by several times a week to care for the animals. Volunteers will help out with other duties, too.

"I think we're doing OK," Peters said. "Everything will get planted and done and all that good stuff."

The Farm Days weekend marks the grand opening of the farm, which is off Eight Mile Road west of Beck Road in Northville Township, for the season.

Events take place from 11 a.m. 4 p.m. on Saturday, May 3 and from noon to 4 p.m. on Sunday. Bluegrass music will be provided by Company of Strangers and

dancers from Miss Harriet's Dance Studio in Northville will entertain crowds, too. Channel 2 will broadcast from the farm during their Saturday morning show, as well.

Three antique tractor clubs will be on hand giving practical demonstrations of how the old machines plowed fields, too, according to Peters.

"We're really happy to see them," Peters said. "It saves us a lot of work."

There will be hayrides available and farm tours, too.

The farm is owned by the State of Michigan but leased to the foundation, which relies on donations to keep it running. Peters said she's going to begin another fundraising drive on May 3, too, with help from one of the foundation's major sponsors, St. Mary Mercy of Livonia. They'll contribute the first part of the 'Give

Two Bits for Maybury Farm' campaign, where donors can drop quarters into buckets at the farm and elsewhere throughout the community. The goal, according to Peters, is to gather a million quarters for the farm.

"(St Mary's) is going to give us 10,000 quarters to kick off the campaign," Peters said.

The farm has technically been open for several weeks, and Peters said she's received complements on the condition of the barn and the number of animals, which now include five peacocks.

She said she's looking for volunteers to help out at the farm, and Roberts' father, Don, a life-long farmer, is chipping in, too, but she's not settled on a long-term replacement for Lowry yet.

"I know people want to see a name, but I would rather wait and get the right person," she said.

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New best friend

Service dog visits senior center

Andrea King
Staff Writer

The newest member of the September Days Senior Center in Van Buren Township is someone's best friend.

Sampson, a certified therapy dog, will bring his tail-wagging good cheer to the center from 8 a.m. to noon every Wednesday, said Senior Coordinator Lynette Jordan.

Jordan, who owns the 8-year-old German shepherd, said Sampson would volunteer his time and love at the center.

"His job is to keep everyone happy and he does," she said. "People know Wednesday is his day."

The position is the first official job for Sampson, who also answers to Sam, Senior Sam or Sambo, since he was first found wondering the streets of Hillsdale. A shelter picked him up and found he was heartworm positive, Jordan said. He was then treated successfully at a rescue center in Ohio.

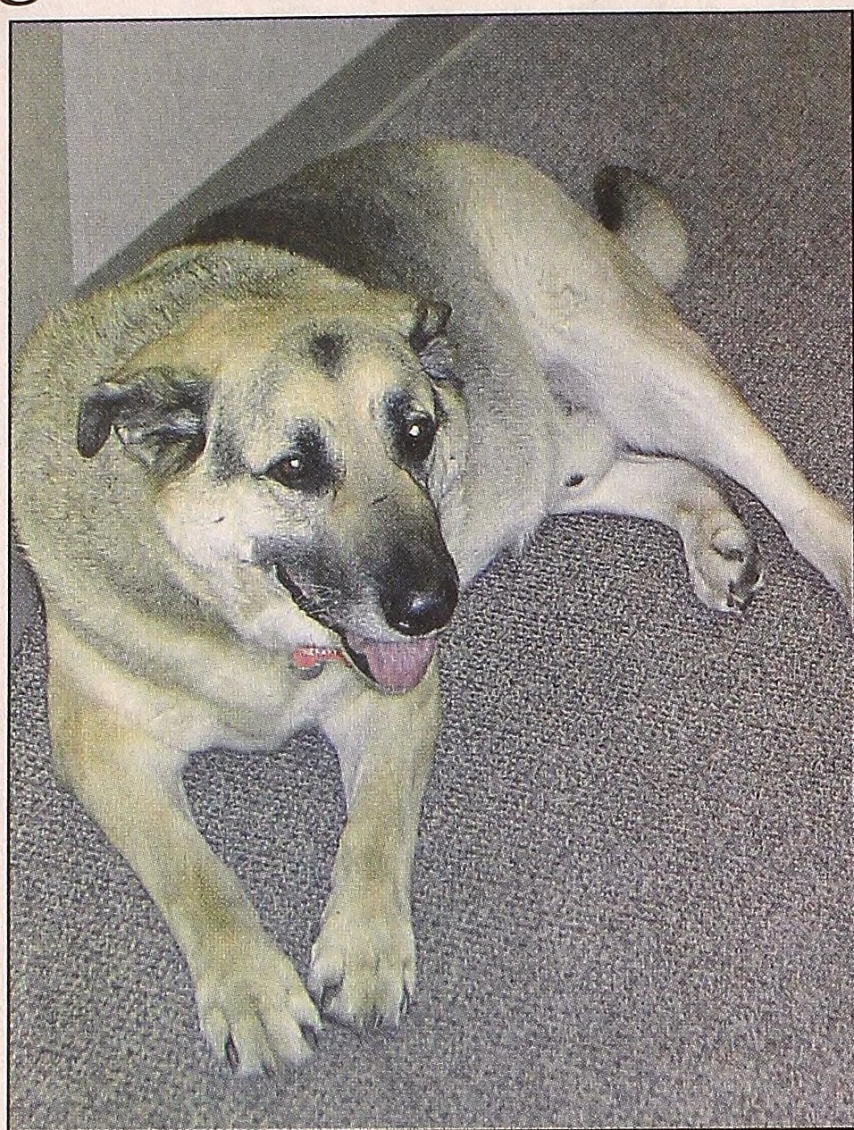
"He lived on a farm for about a year and a half, but he needed a home where he received more love and attention. I wanted a therapy dog that I could take to hospitals and nursing homes and when I found him I knew he'd be a perfect fit," said Jordan.

After obedience classes, temperament testing and other training, the 135-pound dog was certified.

"You can have any dog go through the training, but they have to be loving to be a therapy dog; it's their disposition," said Jordan.

Sampson is also a member of Fur Angels, a non-profit group that visits nursing homes, hospitals and schools on a monthly basis, as well.

"The senior members love to stop in and say hi or take him for walks or to the park behind us because he brings joy to everyone's face," said Jordan. "He loves com-



Sampson, a 135-pound certified therapy dog, will be visiting the September Days Senior Center on Wednesdays. He and his owner, Lynette Jordan, will also be visiting other senior citizen and nursing homes in the area.

ing here. When he gets into the car he's ready to go and the members look forward to seeing him, too."

Fran Bradshaw is one of those members. She said Sampson is 'a character' and she loves it every time he comes into the center.

"I have a little poodle at home so, compared to him he's a big dog, that you wouldn't think would take well to people, but he does. He's so lovable," she said.

"He's protective and a gentle giant," added member Doris

Marttila. "He's very obedient and he always has a smile on his face, too."

That's another wonderful quality that Sampson brings out—sharing pet stories—where members can reflect, Jordan said.

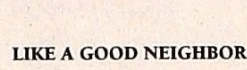
In addition to the September Days visits, Sampson will also do more therapy work in the future, including visits to the Willow Creek Assisted Living and other hospitals and nursing homes, according to Jordan.

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Big boost for band

The Belleville High School Bands received a check for \$314 recently from Big Boy restaurant in Belleville as part of their Celebrity Server Night fundraiser. The fundraiser is a Big Boy fundraiser where prominent members of the community become the wait staff for the evening and where a portion of the proceeds went toward the Belleville Band Boosters club. The event generated \$1,285 total, including tips, which Big Boy management said was the largest fundraiser they have had this year. Pictured are: Michael Campbell, assistant director of bands; Nick Taylor, director of bands; Taleah LaFramboise, co-vice president of the Belleville Band Boosters; Sue Altobello, the president of the Belleville Band Boosters; Tammy Osier, co-vice president of the Belleville Band Boosters and Doug Brown, the treasurer of the Belleville Band Boosters.

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HAROLD AND KUMAR ESCAPE GUANTANAMO BAY (R) 12:00, 2:20, 4:45, 7:05, 9:30
FRI/SAT LS 11:50

BABY MAMA (PG-13) 12:55, 3:10, 5:25, 7:40, 9:55

FORGETTING SARAH MARSHALL (R) 12:00, 2:25, 4:50, 7:15, 9:40

FORBIDDEN KINGDOM (PG-13) 11:20, 1:50, 4:20, 6:50, 9:20 FRI/SAT LS 11:50

EXPULSED: NO INTELLIGENCE ALLOWED (PG) 1:45, 4:00, 9:50

STREET KINGS (R) FRI-WED 7:35, 10:00

LEATHERHEADS (PG-13) FRI, SUN, MON-WED 11:10, 7:20

SAT 2:20 FRI/SAT LS 12:00

WINNIE'S ISLAND (PG) 11:50, 2:15, 4:30, 6:45, 9:00

FRI/SAT LS 11:15

DR. SEUSS' HORTON HEARS A WHO (G) 11:15, 1:20, 3:25, 5:30

Watch for daily news updates on our website www.journalgroup.com

Humane Society offers low-cost cat neutering

In an effort to reduce the number of unwanted cats in the area, the Michigan Humane Society is now offering low-income residents a chance to have their cat sterilized for \$20.

According to Stephanie Baron, spokesperson for the Michigan Humane Society, the Berman Center for Animal Care in Westland is currently accepting requests from area residents interested in having cats or kittens participate in the sterilization clinics.

"It's based on low income," she said. "We're asking people to call in to see if they qualify. It's kind of on a case-by-case basis. Every situation is going to be different."

The goal of the clinics, Baron said, is to reduce the number of homeless cats that take refuge in the various shelters—a population that booms each year at this time as litters of kittens add to the mix. Each year, Baron said, the Michigan Humane Society takes in literally thousands of unwanted cats and kittens each year.

"We see more intakes for cats in the spring and summer months," she said.

Last year, the three Michigan Humane Society branches in the Metropolitan Detroit area took in nearly 20,000 cats—and the Berman Center alone sheltered more than 7,300 cats, she said. Left unchecked, the numbers of unwanted cats would only continue to grow as the parent cats conceivably could go on to have several more litters—and each of the kittens could grow up to begin the cycle all over

again. By spaying or neutering the animals, however, Baron said that pet lovers can short-circuit the cycle.

The veterinary clinic at the Berman Center for Animal Care will offer the \$20 sterilizations by appointment once a month, with the next clinic session scheduled for May 18.

"We've got dates all the way through August," she said. "We hope it's an incentive for people to at least call and see if they qualify."

Those who don't qualify to receive the low-cost sterilizations but would like to have their pet fixed with minimal out of pocket expense may be able to work with the Michigan Humane Society in other ways, Baron said.

"We also have a payment plan," she said.

The sterilization clinics are limited to felines currently because of the larger cat population, Baron said. While dogs are more frequently contained by fences or leashes when they go outside, she said that outdoor cats are typically allowed to roam.

"They have a little more freedom than dogs do," she said.

The Berman Center for Animal Care is located at 900 North Newburgh Road between Ford and Cherry Hill roads in Westland. For more information or to determine eligibility, contact the Michigan Humane Society Berman Center for Animal Care veterinary office at (734) 721-4195 between 2-5 p.m. Monday through Saturday. Information is also available online at www.michiganhumane.org.

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MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE ROMULUS CITY COUNCIL HELD APRIL 7, 2008 IN THE ROMULUS CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBER 11111 S. WAYNE ROAD, ROMULUS, MICHIGAN 48174

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Mayor Pro Tem Randolph Gear.
Present: John Barden, Ellen Craig-Bragg, LeRoy Burcroff, Harry Crout, William Crova, Randolph Gear, William Wadsworth.
Administrative Officials in Attendance:
Alan Lambert, Mayor
Linda R Choate, Clerk
Pamela Morrison/Kersey, CMFA, Treasurer

1. Motion by Crova, supported by Barden to approve the agenda as presented.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes -Barden, Bragg, Burcroff, Crout, Crova, Gear, Wadsworth.
Nays - None.
Motion Carried Unanimously.

08-086

2. Motion by Wadsworth, supported by Burcroff to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of the Romulus City Council held March 24, 2008.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes -Barden, Burcroff, Crout, Crova, Gear, Wadsworth.
Nays - None.
Abstain - Bragg.
Motion Carried.

3. Petitioners - None.

08-087

4A. Motion by Barden, supported by Crout to adopt a resolution congratulating Reverend Hardy and Plue Anna Johnson Sr., on their 60th Wedding Anniversary.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes -Barden, Bragg, Burcroff, Crout, Crova, Gear, Wadsworth.
Nays - None.
Motion Carried Unanimously.

08-088

4B. Motion by Crova, supported by Wadsworth to adopt a memorial resolution to the family of Mary Adele Gear.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Barden, Bragg, Burcroff, Crout, Crova, Gear, Wadsworth.
Nays - None.
Motion Carried Unanimously.

4. Motion by Burcroff, supported by Barden to accept the Chairpersons Report.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Barden, Burcroff, Crout, Crova, Wadsworth.
Nays - None.
Motion Carried Unanimously.

08-089

5A. Motion by Wadsworth, supported by Crout to concur with Kristen Irwin, Recreation Director, to acknowledge that the fifth and sixth grade students from Cory Elementary plan to utilize Elmer Johnson Park on Thursday, April 17, 2008 from 12:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. in

recognition of Earth Day.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Barden, Bragg, Burcroff, Crout, Crova, Gear, Wadsworth.
Nays - None.
Motion Carried Unanimously.

08-090

5B. Motion by Barden supported by Crout to concur with the recommendation of Lynn Conway, Purchasing Coordinator, to award bid 07/08-19, ultrasonic gun cleaning system for the Police Department to the lowest bidder, CMP Distributors Inc., in the amount of \$6,795.00.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Barden, Bragg, Burcroff, Crout, Crova, Gear, Wadsworth.
Nays - None.
Motion Carried Unanimously.

08-091

5C. Motion by Burcroff, supported by Wadsworth to concur with the recommendation of Lynn Conway, Purchasing Coordinator and the Public Safety Director, Charles Kirby to award bid 07/08-21, speed radar equipment for the Police Department, to the lowest bidder for two (2) hand held units, Laser Technology in the amount of \$6,280.00 and to the lowest bidder, for seven (7) KA band radar units to Takedown Enforcement Products in the amount of \$7,945.00.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Barden, Bragg, Burcroff, Crout, Crova, Gear, Wadsworth.
Nays - None.
Motion Carried Unanimously.

08-092

5D. Motion by Crova, supported by Bragg to concur with the recommendation of Tom Wilson, DPW Director, and authorize the repair of the 1986 Ford Tractor, by the sole source vendor, Wm. F. Sell Equipment Company, cost not to exceed \$10,175.00.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Barden, Bragg, Burcroff, Crout, Crova, Gear, Wadsworth.
Nays - None.
Motion Carried Unanimously.

12. Motion by Wadsworth, supported by Bragg to adjourn the regular meeting of the Romulus City Council.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes -Barden, Bragg, Burcroff, Crout, Crova, Gear, Wadsworth.
Nays - None.
Motion Carried Unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda R. Choate, City Clerk
City of Romulus, Michigan

I, Linda R. Choate, Clerk for the City of Romulus, Michigan do hereby certify the foregoing to be a true copy of the minutes of the regular meeting of the Romulus City Council held an April 7,2008

Linda R. Choate, City Clerk
City of Romulus, Michigan

Publish: April 24, 2008

Candidate hopes to help promote district advantages

Molly Tippen
Staff Writer

Danielle Funderburg is hoping a third candidacy for the Romulus Community Schools Board of Education is the charm.

Funderburg – a recognizable face at Wick Elementary, where she has been a parent volunteer for many years – said she’s seeking the four-year term because she thinks there are some things the district could be doing better.

One of those things would be better explaining to pluses of the district.

“We have programs in the schools that you can’t find anywhere around us,” she said. “We do have some challenges, but we have a lot of good things going on the district, and we need to tell people about

them.

“I would like to see other districts come to us to ask us how we were able to implement a program, so we could be a resource,” she said.

Other goals Funderburg would like to see realized would be the return of several support staff that have been eliminated because of budget constraints, and the expansion of the countywide School of Choice Programs, within limits.

“We have had some issues with losing some support staff,” she said. “This is especially true with the nurses, who were able to administer and monitor medications that some students take.

“Right now (at Wick), we have a secretary doing that,” Funderburg said. “In an ideal world, parents would always be able to administer medications. But we have one sec-

retary, and it seems like a risky practice to be handing out medication.”

She also said nurses and support staff greatly assisted teachers, who have their hands full teaching lessons.

“It was nice to be able to send a student to the nurse, instead of having them spend hours in the office,” she said.

Schools of Choice – and enrollment growth in general – is something that should be welcomed as long as it doesn’t stretch district resources, Funderburg said.

“Right now there’s a limit on the number of students that are taken in, but we can expand that if the revenue it generates is used to make sure teachers are hired to the number of students per classroom in check,” she said. “I don’t think any-

one wants to see overcrowded classrooms.”

At the high school, students need to be made aware of options for college, Funderburg said.

“There are some students that aren’t going to go to college, but I would like that to be because they have made a choice, and not because they think it’s not possible,” she said.

Funderburg has two children who attend Romulus Schools, one of whom is has a few more years to complete at Wick, and another who will be headed to middle school.

As a graphic artist, Funderburg knows the art of communication, and said those skills would be useful when it comes to marketing the district.

“I think the district does a good job of this right now, but I would be



Danielle Funderburg

willing to use my skills for the betterment of the district,” she said.

Funderburg is one of five candidates seeking two open seats on the board. Each board member serves a four-year term.

The school election is May 6.

Calendar of events

Drop-in crafts planned

The Romulus Public Library will host a drop-in craft session to mark Mother’s Day.

The session will take place at 10:30 a.m. on May 3.

There is no charge for the event, but registration is required. Spots will be reserved on a first come, first-served basis.

The Romulus Public Library is located at 11121 Wayne Road, next to Romulus City Hall.

For more information, call the library at (734) 942-7589.

City-wide garage sale is planned

Residents who want to rid themselves of some things that have been cluttering their homes can do so on the weekend of May 15-18 during the annual city-wide garage sale.

The sale gives residents the opportunity to have a yard sale without a paying for a permit.

However, residents planning to have a garage sale must complete a no-fee permit at the Parks and Recreation Department.

For more information, call Romulus Parks and Recreation at (734) 941-8665.

Scrapbooking adventure set

The Romulus Recreation Department is hosting a series of scrap booking get-togethers at the Shook Road facility.

The class, which is limited to the first 12 people who sign up, includes at least 3 feet of crop space; snacks, water and dinner; supplies; a raffle drawing for an additional fee; and a door prize drawing.

All classes will take place from noon-9 p.m. and are open to those 16 and older.

The cost of individual classes is \$20 (cash only).

For more information, call Romulus Parks and Recreation at (734) 941-8665.

Mom-to-mom sale scheduled

Moms who seek to obtain high-quality used items are invited to the annual city Mom-to-Mom sale.

The sale is scheduled from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on May 10 at the Romulus Progressive Hall, 11580 Ozga Road.

Table Rental is \$20 for a 10-foot by 8-foot space with a table. Space is limited, and early registration is encouraged.

Concessions will be available.

For more information, call Romulus Parks and Recreation at (734) 941-8665.

Yoga classes offered

Instructor Belinda Patrick will teach a beginner yoga class that focuses on moving the body in a mindful and gentle way.

The goal of gentle yoga is to reduce stress, improve flexibility, strength, balance, and promote overall well-being, class organizers said. Participants will be required to bring a yoga mat.

Other props will be used and discussed in class.

The classes will take place at the Romulus Recreation Department from noon until 1 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays.

Costs for new students are \$42 for a one-class cycle, and \$78 for a two-class cycle. Returning students can take part in the classes for \$40 and \$60, respectively.

— Compiled by Staff Writer Molly Tippen. To publish an event, send an e-mail to mtippen@journalgroup.com.

Proposal

FROM PAGE 1

“The government provided similar leadership during the New Deal using a program run by the HOLC and did something that could be accomplished in no other way; it saved over a million homes from foreclosure, while at the same time returning a profit to the government,” he said.

The legislation would provide \$300 billion in new guarantees to help refinance at-risk borrowers into viable mortgages. Loans would be zero-interest loans to finance acquisition and rehabilitation costs. The federal government would be paid back from resale or refinance dollars.

The loans for homeownership properties must be repaid within two years. For rental properties, the maximum loan term is five years. In addition, the federal government would receive 20 percent of any appreciation a property owner realizes at resale, according to the draft legislation.

Wayne County currently leads the nation in foreclosures,

according to RealtyTrac, a mortgage research firm that tracks real estate data. In 2007, about 4.8 percent – or about 41,000 homes – were in some stage of foreclosure. RealtyTrac’s database of foreclosed homes indicates that about 500 homes are being foreclosed. Another 113 were determined to be in a pre-foreclosure status.

Romulus Economic Development Director Tim Keyes said he’s “saddened” by the number of foreclosures in the community, and he hopes new legislation will help residents.

“I haven’t seen the new legislation but from what I’ve heard, it sounds like a wonderful plan,” he said. “Even one foreclosure is too much for any community, but what’s happening now is a sad sign of the times.”

Dingell said he believes the legislation will be enacted.

“I have every reason to believe this legislation will be of similar benefit to homeowners in Michigan, which has one of the highest foreclosure rates in the nation. I look forward to working with my colleagues in Congress to see to it that this legislation moves quickly.”

Oakwood proposes new complex

Scott Spielman
Editor

Representatives from the Oakwood Healthcare system pitched a new facility to Canton Township officials Monday night, but they will stay true to their Wayne roots.

Doug Welday, executive vice president and chief financial officer of Oakwood Healthcare, said there were no plans to cease operations at Oakwood Ann Arbor, which celebrated its 50th anniversary this year.

“It’s been an important part of our long-term success,” said Welday, who also mentioned the \$30 million worth of improvements that have taken place at the facility in the last several years. “We expect to continue to operate it”

The township planning commission granted a conditional preliminary approval for the Planned Development District (PDD) put forth by representatives of Oakwood Health Care, Inc. despite some objections from nearby residents.

The plan, the second one put forth by the health care organization in the last two years, would place the campus closer to Michigan Avenue than the previous location at the corner of Beck and Geddes roads.

“This site is much more suitable for a medical campus,” said Planning Commissioner Katherine Bovitz.

Located north of Michigan Avenue and west of Beck Road, the site is 140 acres that is already zoned for industrial uses. It includes a 40-acre parcel that Oakwood has optioned which would be the most western and northern portion of the campus.

Doug Welday, executive vice president and chief financial officer of Oakwood Healthcare, said the site would allow the firm to expand on services it has provided to the community since 1981.

“We have been a long-standing member of the community,” he

said.

The firm didn’t provide as many details to the plan as they did when they sought approval for their first site last year. The 140-acre plot was divided into three sections, instead, labeled as development areas A, B and C. The plan would most likely include a 150,000 medical facility similar to the St. Joseph medical center on Canton Center Road, he said, but other uses would be determined by the market. They could include some multiple family residential units—in development area ‘C’—as well as a full service hospital with a six-story patient tower. That would be located in area ‘B,’ which is furthest from the residential area and closest to the large warehouse building to the south.

Welday said, though, that nothing has been finalized about the plan yet.

“This is not a request for a hospital or a special building, but more of a range of options for us,” he told the commissioners.

He said the project could ultimately represent an investment of more than \$400 million and bring in 3,000 jobs. The company already employs 40 physicians in the township that provide a total of 400 ancillary jobs. Many of them are residents, too.

Community Planner Jeff Goulet had recommended that any buildings constructed near the residences to the north and west be capped at 45 feet, rather than the 50 feet the ordinance allows. He also didn’t want to see multiple family residential uses on the 40-acre option parcel, either; because of the impact on the housing market.

Brad Strader, of Langworthy Strader and Leblanc (LSL) planning, said that the multiple family market is more suited to a 40-acre parcel than the senior residences suggested by township planners.

“There might not be a market for that,” he said.

Residents packed the meeting room Monday night and were generally split on the proposal. Most agreed that the new site was better

than the old, but many said it was still not ideal.

Residents from the nearby subdivisions voiced concerns over the size of the facility, the height of the towers, the potential noise it would bring—through helicopters, ambulances and just the general nuisance of loud hating and air-conditioning units—as well the negative impact to their property values. Traffic was an issue, too.

“It’s going to impact the neighborhoods that surround this facility and severely impact it,” said Henry Moore. “We can’t impact these neighbors any more. It’s really asking too much.”

“I think Canton Township can be doing much better than it is doing,” said David Marsh.

Others supported the proposal.

“I like the idea,” said long-time resident Bonnie Berg. “This would help bring people in. I think we need it.”

“It’s one thing we are lacking,” added Carolyn Summers.

The commission added several conditions to their preliminary approval of the PDD. They more than doubled the suggested greenbelt buffering the development from the residents to 120 feet. They also added a provision that the developer must work with the residents as they develop their site plan, either through a citizens advisory council or a design charrette—or both.

Commissioner Greg Greene stressed the need for a nice looking project that blended with the nearby residences, too.

“You’re going to be a part of that neighborhood,” he told the Oakwood representatives. “It should look like part of that neighborhood.”

The preliminary approval at the planning commission level is just the first step of the process. The board of trustees must also sign off on the preliminary approval, too.

The project will need final approvals from both the commission and board and site plan review, as well.

Track

FROM PAGE 1

lion in public infrastructure dollars, which will benefit this and other developments in Pinnacle Aeropark.

Michigan Brownfield programs provide incentives to

invest in blighted property that has been used for industrial, commercial or residential purposes and to keep that property in productive use or return it to a productive use. The race track was one of five projects announced by the Brownfield Authority. Those projects could create as many as 9,000 new jobs.

The Pinnacle facility will feature two tracks, grandstands, picnic area, clubhouse, horse barns and grooms’ quarters. Total capacity is estimated at 8,000, with 1,200 horse stalls located on site. County officials hope the remaining 80 acres of land on the site will eventually consist of retail and other commercial development.

Briefs

FROM PAGE 1

Jonathan Citrin will each serve a three-year term and help guide the agency in providing services to families in the community.

“We are honored to welcome these two successful business leaders and champions of our mission to our board of directors,” said Ann Kalass, CEO of Starfish Family Services.

“Our agency will benefit from their management and leadership skills and we look forward to their guidance and commitment in helping Starfish Family Services provide brighter futures for families and children in our community,” she

added.

Boylan is a private investor who specializes in private banking, credit and middle marketing lending and has experience in fiduciary risk management.

She has worked for National Bank of Detroit, First Chicago NBD and Bank One. Prior to her career in the banking industry, Boylan worked for Ford Motor Co.

She is also the chair of the Visitors’ Committee of the Division of Social Sciences at the University of Chicago and trustee of the Ann Arbor Area Community Foundation.

Citrin is the chief executive officer of the Citrin Group, L.L.C., a financial investment company that advises high net worth individuals and various sized businesses on financial and investment issues such

as: asset allocation, mean-variance optimization, portfolio selection, succession planning, estate reduction, and financial planning.

Citrin assists in the investment of client assets in appropriate vehicles, including: stocks, bonds, mutual funds, hedge funds, and alternative investments. He also serves as an adjunct professor at the Wayne State University School of Business Administration where he teaches Security Analysis and Valuation. Citrin is a member of the Government Relations Oversight Committee of Jewish Federation of Metro Detroit and the Financial Planning Association.

Starfish Family Services is the largest private, non-profit human service agency in western Wayne County.

Going green

Environmentalist receives warm welcome at college

Andrea King
Staff Writer

Participants gave the climate change forum at Wayne County Community College District a warm welcome recently.

So warm, in fact, college officials are responding to requests for more workshops and speakers on the topic in the future.

According to Raquel Garcia Andersen, vice-president of the western campus, the college anticipates hosting ecologist Kathryn Savoie at all their college locations to speak about her version of Al Gore's—and a team of scientists and educators—presentation on the global warming crisis.

“She had a common interest topic that students want to talk about: global warming,” said Garcia Andersen. “We’re responding to the community and emphasizing community education by bringing her here.”

The event, in partnership with the Arab Community Center for

Economic and Social Services (ACCESS), included Savoie’s take on the documented film and book, *An Inconvenient Truth*, along with her more than 20 years of knowledge in the environmental field.

Savoie completed her Ph.D. in Ecology at the University of Michigan in 1991. In 1991, she attended the historic People of Color Environmental Leadership Summit in Washington DC, which inspired her to devote herself to working for environmental justice. She is also a founding member of Detroiters Working for Environmental Justice.

Since 1994, Savoie has worked at ACCESS, where she directs community-based programs in environmental education, environmental health research and advocacy for environmental justice. Savoie has since given her presentation of climate change more than 60 times to audiences all over the State of Michigan.

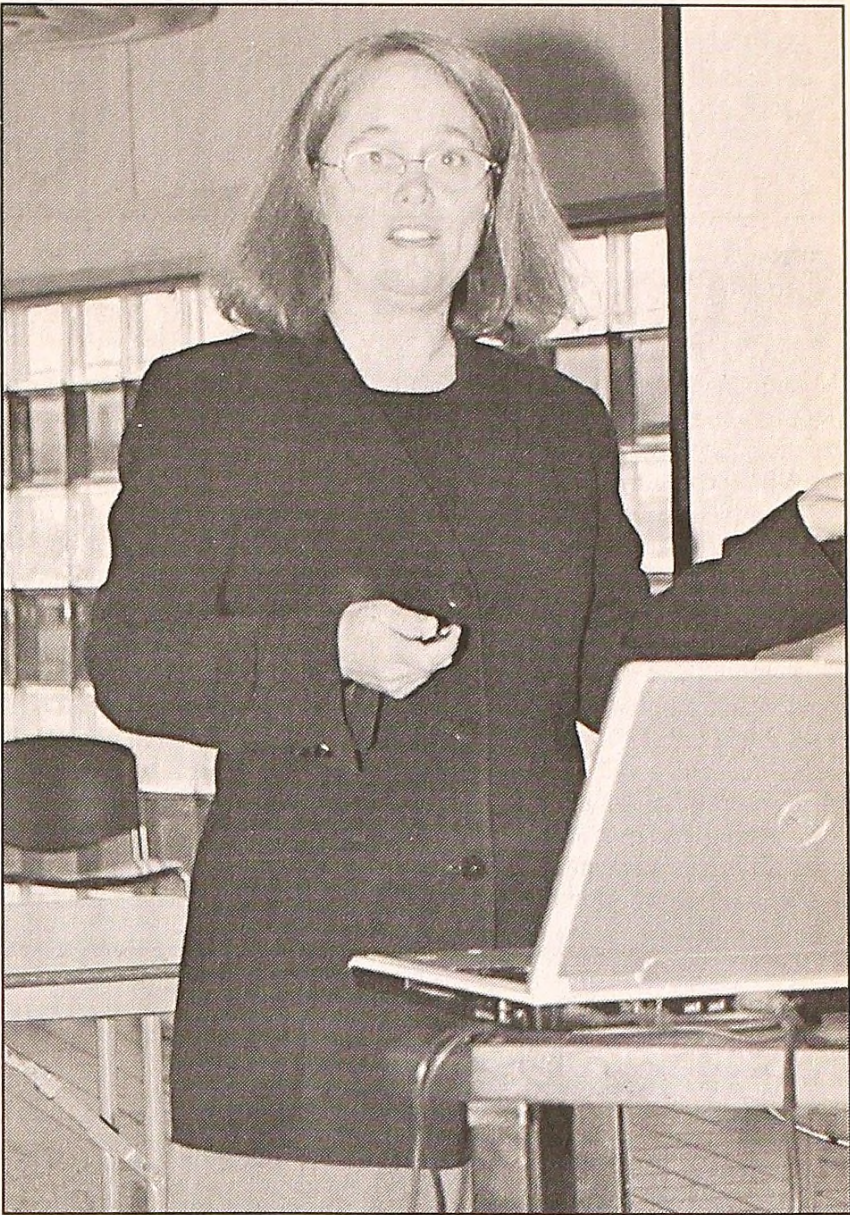
Some green initiatives Savoie, who is currently the Environmental Program Director at ACCESS, said

were energy efficiency in the home, ‘green’ jobs and how growers/farmers are moving out of the northern parts and down to places like Kentucky.

“It also sparked follow-up workshops, too,” said Garcia Anderson. “People want more one-day events, like this.”

The next event, Gardening Treasurers from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on May 17, will include workshops on landscape design, organic gardening, composting and children’s garden projects. It will also include Bioneers, a national organization with local chapters that focus on practical solutions for the people and the planet. It will be a follow-up to the Climate Change event, officials said.

Another presentation in the works is a ‘going green’ and energy efficiency workshop by Karry Coates, a heating, ventilation and cooling instructor at the college, who has systematically transformed his home into a green home, according to Garcia Andersen.



Kathryn Savoie, a well-known and credentialed environmental expert, spoke to a large audience at the western campus of the Wayne County Community College District last week. Response to her presentation has prompted college officials to invite her to speak at other campuses.

Van Buren Township approves new drinking water fund

Andrea King
Staff Writer

Van Buren Township officials approved the final project plan request for water funding recently, which will include a 2 million gallon water tower.

Todd Knepper, director of public works for the township, said the public had opportunity to review the proposed project at township hall to make comments before April 15, but there were no public comments made.

“It’s a low interest loan program through the state and includes the drinking water system plan, which includes the addition of about 22,780 feet of new water main, replaces about 3,670 feet of existing water

main, as well as the installation of new meter pit connection to the Detroit Water and Sewage System,” said Knepper. “The project also includes the construction of a 2 million gallon water tower to provide more adequate flows and pressure throughout the system, as well as the reliability of the drinking water system as a whole.”

Last February, officials approved the study to determine the feasibility of the water storage tank and water system improvements, which showed the end results could shave peak hours for water usage, increase system redundancy and reduce the severity of cost increases from Detroit Water and Sewer; they said.

The study, conducted by Wade-Trim Associates at a cost of \$36,500, identified any

improvements needed for a 20-year planning horizon. It means the plan included improvements other than the water tower, like how to address the pressure, fire flow and redundancy deficiencies in the northwest corner of the township.

Township Supervisor Cindy King said this has been in the capital improvements plan and funds to include the improvements.

“The improvements will lend stability to the system pressure,” she said. “If the pressure is low there can be problems so we’re trying to achieve this so that doesn’t occur.”

The plan will now be submitted to the

Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) as part of the application for a low interest loan that would be used to construct the items discussed in the project plan. For Van Buren Township, that includes the water tower and water main—some of which will be upsizing some existing water mains and other areas will be getting new water mains to tie together existing dead end mains, according to Knepper.

The application is due May 1 to the DEQ. It will then take several months to review, along with any other applications from other communities, Knepper said.

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN COUNTY OF WAYNE STATE OF MICHIGAN ORDINANCE NO. 04-01-08(1) AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE ZONING ORDINANCE 6-2-92, AS AMENDED, OF THE REGULATIONS OF VAN BUREN TO ADD REZONING WITH CONDITIONS.

Second reading of ordinance for adoption.

An ordinance to amend the Zoning Ordinance 06-02-92, as amended, of the Charter Township of Van Buren; Section 18.09; REZONING WITH CONDITIONS.

THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN HEREBY ORDAINS:

SECTION 1.	ORDINANCE AMENDMENT	
Section 18.09.	Rezoning with conditions.	ADD
Section 18.09.A.	Intent.	ADD
Section 18.09.B.	Definitions.	ADD
Section 18.09.C.	Authorization and Eligibility.	ADD
Section 18.09.D.	Application and Review Procedures.	ADD
Section 18.09.E.	Review Criteria.	ADD
Section 18.09.F.	Effect of Approval.	ADD
Section 18.09.G.	Compliance with Conditions.	ADD
Section 18.09.H.	Period of Approval.	ADD
Section 18.09.I.	Rezoning with Conditions Agreement Requirements.	ADD
Section 18.09.J.	Amendment of Rezoning with Conditions Agreement.	ADD
Section 18.09.K.	Recordation of Rezoning with Conditions Agreement.	ADD
Section 18.09.L.	Termination.	ADD
Section 18.09.M.	Township Right to Rezone.	ADD
Section 18.09.N.	Fee.	ADD

SECTION 2.	CONFLICTS.	ADD
SECTION 3.	SEVERABILITY.	ADD
SECTION 4.	EFFECTIVE DATE.	ADD

This ordinance shall be effective upon publication in a newspaper of general circulation within the Township.

This Ordinance is hereby declared to have been adopted by the Township Board of the Charter Township of Van Buren, County of Wayne, State of Michigan, at a Regular Meeting, called and held on the 15th day of April, 2008.

YEAS : Clair, Budd, Hart, Rochowiak, Payne, Jahr and King.
NAYS : None.
ABSENT: None.
ABSTAINED: None.

This Ordinance shall be immediately recorded by the Township Clerk in the Township Ordinance Book as soon as it is adopted, which record shall be authenticated by the signatures of the Supervisor and Clerk and shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the Township within ten (10) days after passage.

I hereby approve the foregoing Ordinance.

Joannie D. Payne, CMC, Clerk
Cindy C. King, Supervisor

Adopted: April 15, 2008
Effective: April 24, 2008
Publish: April 10, 2008
April 24, 2008

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN NOTICE OF LINCOLN CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL ELECTION – MAY 6, 2008

In accordance with Michigan Election Law, Act 116 of 1954 Section 168.653 (a), notice is hereby given to the registered voters of the Charter Township of Van Buren within the Lincoln Consolidated School District that the School Election will be held TUESDAY, May 6, 2008.

Polls are open 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. EST.
Polling place locations for Van Buren Township:

Precinct #10 South Middle School 45201 Owen St.

All polling place locations are handicap accessible. To obtain election instructions in an alternative format (audio or Braille), contact the Clerk’s Office prior to Election Day.

Ballot Language Lincoln Consolidated School:
Member of the Board of Education Four (4) year term expiring June 30, 2012.
Vote for not more than two (2)
Jane Ellen Innes
James Paschal

Ballot Proposal Language Lincoln Consolidated Schools:
Lincoln Consolidated School District
Funds to Operate Community Recreation Programs,
Including For Senior Citizens .25 Mill for 5 years

YES _____
NO _____
Full text of the ballot proposal may be obtained at the administrative offices of Lincoln Consolidated School District, 8970 Whittaker Road, Ypsilanti, MI 48197, telephone: (734) 484-7001.

The County Treasurer’s Statement:
I, Raymond J. Wojtowicz, Treasurer of Wayne County, Michigan do hereby certify that, as of March 13, 2008 the total of all voted increases in excess of the tax rate limitation established by Section 6, Article IX of the Constitution of the State of Michigan, as amended, and the years such increases are effective on property in the County of Wayne are as follows:

Lincoln Consolidated Schools For that portion lying in Van Buren Township Wayne County Michigan			
Local Unit	Date of Election	Voted Increases	Years Increases Effective
County of Wayne	August 8, 2000	1 mill	2009
Wayne County Jail	August 6, 2002	1 mill	2011
Wayne County Parks	August 8, 2005	0.25 mills	2010
Wayne County Community College	November 6, 2001	1.5 mills	2010
Charter Township of Van Buren	August 7, 1990	6 mills	2010
	August 7, 2007	4 mill	2012
Lincoln Consolidated Schools	June, 1994	18 mills	2013 (non homest)
	June, 2003	2.0 mills	2013

Applications for Absentee Voter Ballots are available at the Clerk’s Office, Township Hall, 46425 Tyler Road, Belleville, MI 48111, 734-699-8909. Deadline for filing an application to receive an Absentee Ballot for the May 6, 2008 Lincoln Consolidated School Election for Van Buren Township is Saturday, May 3, 2008 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Township Clerk’s Office.

Joannie D. Payne, CMC
Township Clerk

Publish: April 24, 2008

OPINION

Prognosis for Oakwood development is good

Officials from the Oakwood Health Care unveiled plans Monday night for a proposed medical campus in Canton Township.

Well, sort of, anyway.

The documentation they provided in their request for a preliminary approval of a Planned Development District (PDD) showed only the 140-acre site near Michigan Avenue and Beck Road with three large areas labeled 'Development Areas 'A,' 'B' and 'C'.

The facilities that could go there range from a medical center and ambulatory care facility similar to the St. Joe's center on Canton Center Road to senior housing, residential units and a full service hospital. Officials from the health care firm assured Canton planners—and residents—that it would be a less intense use than the approximately 3 million square feet of warehouse facilities that could be sited there now.

It's a different approach than the one they followed last

year, when they proposed a medical campus about a mile or so north at the corner of Beck and Geddes roads, which is at the heart of a residential district. That plan was ultimately rejected, but not because there wasn't enough information out there. Oakwood representatives provided more details then, a dedicated link on their web site and they did all they could to actively engage the impacted residents.

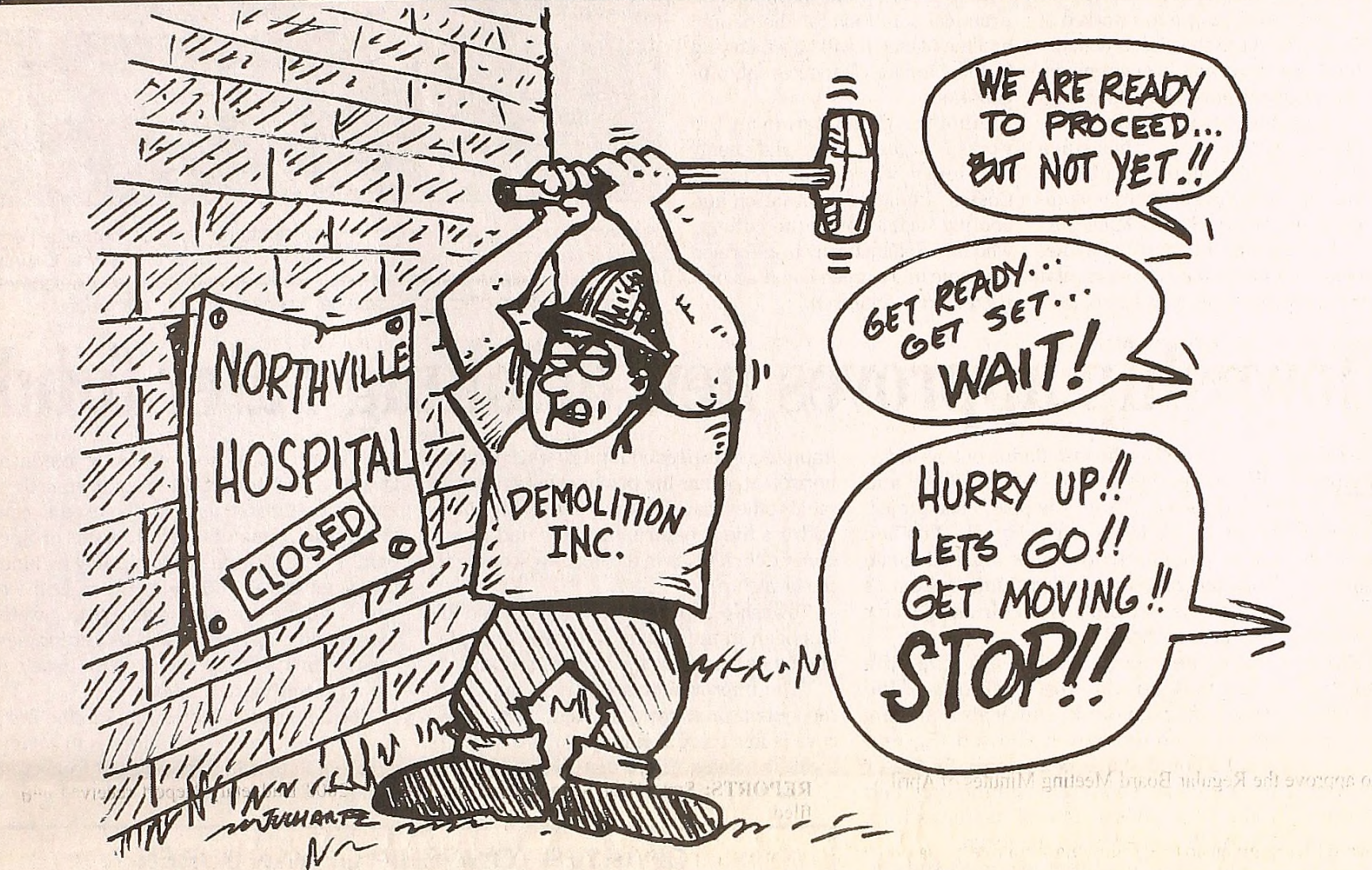
This plan is a little better than that one, as nebulous as it is right now. The major improvement is the new location. At the northern portion of a swath of land that is already zoned for industrial use, it will impact fewer homeowners and it will certainly look better than the warehouse type facilities that could be constructed under the current zoning.

Even so, not everybody is going to be happy with this. There will be people who will be concerned about the large structures constructed there; the potential for noise throughout the night, the impact on their property values.

The planning commissioners did as well as they could when they granted a conditional approval to the PDD Monday night. They made sure that the buffer between the building and the residences was as wide as possible and will be vigorously planted with trees to screen it. They also wrote into the approval that the firm work with residents—either through a citizens' advisory council or a design charrette or both—as they develop the site.

We hope that process is more than just lip service, too. Officials from the firm indicated that their desire to work with residents is one of the reasons they hadn't drawn up any specific plans yet. That's a little hard to believe—it's more likely that they know what they're going to build and where they're going build it—but the desire to foster this cooperation is now on the record.

Let's hope the residents, planners and Oakwood can work together to make this as good as possible.



What's the big secret?

There was an abrupt change recently in the Van Buren Public Safety Department.

Mark Nicholai, who has served as the fire chief since August of 2006, was asked to vacate his position, despite numerous accomplishments during his tenure.

Among those accomplishments are the approval of a millage funding public safety, the opening of a new fire station, the implementation of a 24-hour fire service, the re-establishment of an Explorers program, and the initiation of a Citizen Fire Academy.

Needless to say, his departure is puzzling.

There are, so far, few answers to the question of why this has happened. Township officials are Spartan in their responses. In fact, no one is saying much of anything.

That's a concern, too. In this day and age of open government, there needs to be more answers when something like this happens so abruptly. This is public money, after all, and members of the community deserve to know what's going on in the fire department, which many count as among the most valuable services a governmental body can provide.

Township Supervisor Cindy King has promised more answers at a later date. We want them sooner, rather than later.

Protect and serve, indeed

These days it's easy to forget that there are still a lot of people looking out for the public good.

I was reminded of this while driving to my first budget meeting in Northville, when I was pulled over by a Northville police officer who informed me that part of my exhaust system was dragging on the roadway underneath my car. This was on Northville Road, about 3 miles from the meeting that was to start in about 10 minutes.

Knowing that there was no one else to cover it, and that any ride I called would arrive too late to do it any real justice, I explained my situation and asked if instead I could just limp the car there and call for a ride afterwards.

No luck. Instead the officer told me that I could park my car and he would give me a lift there.

Talk about public service. It didn't end there, either.

Caught without a cell phone after the meeting, I asked another woman if I could borrow her phone to call for a ride. She didn't have one, either, but she flagged down Mayor Chris Johnson and explained that my car had broken down and that I needed to call home to have someone pick me up.

I was deeply embarrassed, but Johnson was extremely polite—he even dialed my home number for

Developer is stalling job market

I received a letter recently that sums up some concerns about the ongoing dispute with the former Northville Psychiatric Hospital site in Northville Township.

With the heading 'Michigan Jobs Now,' it was signed by John T. Adamo, Jr, who, a little Internet research turned up, is the Chief Executive Officer of the Adamo Demolition Co., which is based in Detroit (at the same address provided by Michigan Jobs Now).

I normally don't respond to letters in a column, but I gave him a call earlier this week to ask about his letter and some of its claims. He points out that the state is in desperate need of new jobs and that Northville Township officials have blocked the \$800 million development and shut the door on more than 8,000 jobs that would generate

about \$200 million in wages.

I've heard this before and I have to admit I don't understand it.

It seems to me that the developer, REIS, is the one stalling the job market, not Northville Township. There is a lot of work that needs to be done prior to any construction, after all. If the developer was so concerned about providing jobs and boosting the economy, why don't they put people to work tearing down the buildings and preparing for the eventual construction on the site?

There's nothing stopping them from doing that. They own the land. They know the buildings have to come down. All that's required is a visit to township hall to request a demolition permit to get that process started. I'm sure any township official would point them in

the right direction—they've been calling for the demolition of the buildings for years.

This is not about the jobs or the potential for economic development. It's not about a township board that is stubbornly anti-business or anti-development, either. Anyone who knows the hurdles township officials went through to ensure that IAV Automotive relocated to the township and the efforts they've put into their economic development knows that.

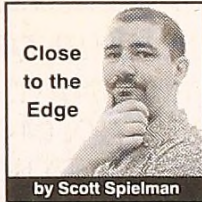
This, in my opinion, is about the same old thing: a developer trying to force its will on the township and its residents.

That and economics. This \$800 million development depends on a couple of things: first, it suggests throwing more than 1,000 new homes into the worst housing mar-

ket in Michigan history. It also proposes more than 30 acres of new retail into an economy that, by anyone's standards, is limping along. The only way the developer can make money on it right now is to successfully sue the township for damages.

I know the economy is going to rebound. It'd be nice for this development to be ready when it does. The only way for that to happen, though, is for the site to be ready for construction.

Given that, and the fact that it will make the site a lot safer and show some good faith to their new neighbors, why don't they get started? Tearing down the buildings would be a good place to do that, to say nothing of the jobs it will create.



Close to the Edge

by Scott Spielman

Letters

Annexation effort supported

To the editor;

I helped form Michigan Jobs Now to support various develop-

ment and new job opportunities. Michigan Jobs Now facilitated the circulation and filing of the annexation petition to annex the former Northville Psychiatric Hospital

site in Livonia because of the desperate need we have in the state for new jobs. Carpenters, bricklayers, operators and all service businesses need more work.

Northville Township has blocked this \$800 million development and shut the door on over 8000 jobs and more than \$200 million in wages (based on the township's own estimates). The township's agents yell about complying with ordinances and ignore the township board's impossible conditions and broken promises. Ms. (Lori) Marrs ignores the over \$30 million worth of commitments the developers made in exchange for some lot size variances and commercial area increase—and the township's reneging on those conditions. Instead she falsely claims this issue is only about complying with ordinances—if anything were ever so simple.

If it takes annexation to get Northville Township and its agents to stop publicly vilifying the developer and make some compromises that reflect current eco-

omic realities, then it is necessary. If Northville will not get real—this I say let's see if Livonia—a business friendly community—can bring new jobs and expanded tax base to the area. After all, it would be the opportunity for Livonia to recover from the expected loss of Quicken loans and help rebuild its tax base. Why wouldn't Livonia and its residents want new jobs and an expanded tax base—maybe Northville Township thinks it does not need that?

John T. Adamo, Jr.
Michigan Jobs Now
Detroit

Water rates protested

To the editor:

Are you aware that our township board recently passed an ordinance which permits the township to charge you for water you have not used? This came as

See Letters, page 7

See Community, page 7

JOURNAL

NEWSPAPERS

The Northville Journal • The Plymouth Journal

Publications of Willow Media, L.L.C.

The Canton Eagle • The Belleville Enterprise • The Inkster Ledger Star

The Romulus Roman • The Wayne Eagle • The Westland Eagle

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Letters

FROM PAGE 6

a great shock to me.

The ordinance reads that the township will charge you for 10,000 gallons of water each quarter; whether you use that amount or not. In my particular case, I used 6,000 gallons of water, for the past two quarters, which represents in dollars, an over charge of \$48. Is this happening to you, too?

Apparently, the board feels justified in gouging their constituents. Charge them for something never used. In my opinion, this is un-American, unconventional, and a very underhanded practice. We should only pay for what we use, not for some arbitrary amount imposed by the township board.

If you agree, call our township supervisor and register your complaint.

Jack G. Tornga,
Plymouth Township

Community

FROM PAGE 6

me, after I gave his Blackberry the same mystified look that our prehistoric ancestors undoubtedly reserved for fire.

You know, a lot has been written about the modern age and how all of our technological conveniences have eaten away at the fabric of society. People talk about the anonymity of e-dating and automated customer service menus, as if these things have made basic human interaction almost obsolete.

The ideal of community has shifted too, used now as a euphe-

mism for lone individuals communicating in the never land of cyber space, those that want the connection of a “community” without the actual day-to-day hassle of one.

Although I believe there is some truth to this, it’s nice to be reminded that, in some places, ideas about community and community service still mean just that- going out of your way for someone else simply to do your part for the common good.

Small day-to-day kindnesses and consideration is the best part of what holds a society together to begin with.

It’s nice to know that in Northville, community still means just that.



Savage scientists

Winners of the science fair at Savage Elementary School this year included: Skyler Cooper, 11, with “Which Paper Towel Works Best?”; Clayton Strider, 11, with “Which Toothpaste Removes Stains?”; Alexis Merritt, 11, with “Which Nail Polish Last Longer”; Chase Duncan, 11, with “Blood Sugar Levels/Fruit”; Stephanie O'Neill, 10, with “Gassy Fruit”; Senna Church, 8, with “Life Cycle of a Butterfly”; Gavin Hill, 8, with “Solar Ovens”; Faith Gibbons, 10, with “Which Juice Cleans a Penny the Best” and Bryan Dallas, 8, with “Got Starch?”

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES APRIL 15, 2008

Supervisor King called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. in the Board Room. Present: Supervisor King, Clerk Payne, Treasurer Budd, Trustee Clair, Trustee Hart, Trustee Jahr and Trustee Rochowiak. Absent and excused: None. Others in attendance: Planning and Economic Development Director Kelley, Parks and Recreation Director Ross, DPW Director Knepper, Public Safety Director Champagne, Secretary Cline and an audience of twenty-eight (28).

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Hart moved, Rochowiak seconded to approve the agenda as presented. Carried.

PUBLIC HEARING: None.

MINUTES: Budd moved, Hart seconded to approve the Work Study Session Minutes of March 31, 2008 as presented. Carried.

Clair moved, Rochowiak seconded to approve the Regular Board Meeting Minutes of April 1, 2008 as presented. Carried.

CORRESPONDENCE: Service awards were given to the following employees David Champagne, Mike Long, Kathleen Jensen, Curtis Lunsford and Ken Landstrom for 5 years of service; Anthony Karver for 10 years of service and Jeff Osborne for 20 years of service.

The Van Buren Township Public Safety Department (Dispatch) is in receipt of a certificate of recognition from the Emergency Telephone Service Committee in honor of Public Safety Telecommunicators Week.

The public is invited to the Woods Creek Renaming Ceremony on April 22, 2008 (Earth Day) at 2:00 p.m. a ceremony that will officially change the name of the Griggs Drain to Woods Creek at Lower Huron Metropark Woods Creek Picnic area, at the north end of the parking lot that serves the old swimming pool. Also, a River Friendly Lawn Care workshop will be held at Van Buren Township Hall in the Otisville-Sheldon room on Tuesday, April 29th from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. with registration at 6:15 p.m.

On Monday, April 28th a Wayne County sponsored Health Expo for the uninsured from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at Cobo Hall in the Riverview Ballroom in Detroit.

The Detroit Metropolitan Wayne County Airport Authority will be hosting Master Plan Open Houses at the Metropolitan Hotel, 31500 Wick Road in Romulus on Wednesday, April 23rd from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. and from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.; Tuesday, April 29th from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.; and on Thursday, May 1st from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Wayne County Treasurer has extended the collections of taxes through the end of April (taxes to be paid at Wayne County Treasurer’s Office). The Wayne County Treasurer’s Office has information on paying delinquent taxes and foreclosures.

The 2008 HUG (Help Unity Grow) will be held on April 19th at 8:00 a.m. at Belleville High School.

On Saturday, May 10th Wayne County Department of Environment and Goodwill Industries of Greater Detroit is sponsoring a Computer/Computer Peripheral Waste Collection at Canton Department of Public Works located on Sheldon Road from 8:00 a.m. to noon. For more information contact the Wayne County Department of Environment at 734.326.3936.

On Tuesday, June 3rd “The Purple Gang Strikes Again” an interactive dinner and theatre murder mystery event to benefit the Belleville Museum sponsored by the Belleville Historical Society will be held at the Bayou Grill. For more information call 734.697.3662.

Wayne County Department of Environment is sponsoring a Household Hazardous Waste Collection on Saturday, June 7th from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Romulus Civic Center located at Wayne Road in Romulus. For more information contact the Wayne County Department of Environment at 734.326.3936.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Jahr moved, Clair seconded to approve the second reading for adoption of Ordinance 04-01-08(1) to amend the Township Zoning Ordinance, 06-02-92, as amended, to revise regulations pertaining to Rezoning with Conditions. Roll Call Vote. Yeas: Clair, Budd, Hart, Rochowiak, Payne, Jahr and King. Nays: None. Absent: None. Carried.

*(A synopsis of Ordinance 04-01-08 (1) follows the minutes. A complete copy may also be obtained in the Clerk’s Office, Township Hall, 46425 Tyler Road during normal business hours.)

Payne moved, Budd seconded to approve the second reading for adoption of Ordinance 04-01-08(2) to amend the Township Zoning Ordinance, 06-02-92, as amended, to revise regulations pertaining to Cell Tower Co-location, administrative approval. Roll Call Vote. Yeas: Payne, Rochowiak, Budd, Jahr, Hart, Clair and King. Nays: None. Absent: None. Carried.

*(A synopsis of Ordinance 04-01-08 (2) follows the minutes. A complete copy may also be obtained in the Clerk’s Office, Township Hall, 46425 Tyler Road during normal business hours.)

NEW BUSINESS: Clair moved, Rochowiak seconded to approve the adoption of Resolution 2008-14 the Drinking Water Revolving Fund (DWRF) project plan, as presented, along with the appropriate public comments as heard during the public hearing, to the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality as part of the DWRF funding [and to des-

ignate Todd Knepper, DPW Director as the authorized project representative]. Carried.

Budd moved, Hart seconded to proclaim Proclamation 2008-16 making April the Alcohol Awareness Month. Carried.

Payne moved, Jahr seconded to approve permit application PN#6213536 1034-08-2386 by AT&T in the northerly portion of the Bemis Road public right of way and permit application permit application PN#6213509 1034-08-2385 by AT&T in the northerly and southerly portion of the Robson Road public right of way to install telecommunications infrastructure. Carried.

Hart moved, Rochowiak seconded to approve Zambelli Fireworks contract, Hold Harmless agreement and State of Michigan permit for the 2008 Fireworks Display and to authorize the Supervisor and Clerk to execute the documents. Carried.

Rochowiak moved, Hart seconded to approve the adoption of Resolution 2008-17 the Fire Truck financing. Carried.

VOUCHER LIST: Budd moved, Hart seconded to approve the April 15, 2008 voucher list as presented. Carried.

REPORTS: Supervisor King ordered the February 2008 Budgetary Report received and filed.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Supervisor King reminded the public they are invited to the Woods Creek Renaming Ceremony on April 22, 2008 (Earth Day) at 2:00 p.m. a ceremony that will officially change the name of the Griggs Drain to Woods Creek at Lower Huron Metropark Woods Creek Picnic area, at the north end of the parking lot that serves the old swimming pool. Also, a River Friendly Lawn Care workshop will be held at Van Buren Township Hall in the Otisville-Sheldon room on Tuesday, April 29th from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. with registration at 6:15 p.m.

Treasurer Budd announced the Drive Thru Dog Clinic will take place on Saturday, May 10th from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. in the Water and Sewer Building.

Clerk Payne announced Absentee Ballots are available in the Clerk’s Office for the Tuesday, May 6, 2008 Election where voters in the Lincoln Consolidated School District will choose two (2) school board members and vote on a millage proposal. Also, all registered voters in Van Buren Township have been mailed a new voter registration card. Contact the Clerk’s Office at 734.699.8909 for additional voter information.

The Recreation Department announced the following events: On Sunday, May 4th a Mother/Daughter Tea Party will be held at Van Buren Township in the Community Center and on Friday, May 9th the annual Mother/Son Bowl will be held at Lodge Lanes. Registration is required for both of these events. For further information on classes and events contact the Recreation Department at 734.699.8921.

A resident recapped the Woods Creek group meetings and reiterated the announcements of the Woods Creek Renaming Ceremony on April 22, 2008 (Earth Day), Lawn Care Workshop on Tuesday, April 29th and announced on April 26th a critter survey will take place at Woods Creek and the Woods Creek has received a grow zone grant from the Alliance of Downriver Watersheds. Clerk Payne reminded the resident of the three minute rule [resolution 2007-14 Rules of Conduct Policy].

A resident reminded the audience of the 2008 HUG (Help Unity Grow) will be held on April 19th at 8:00 a.m. at Belleville High School.

AUDIENCE (Non-Agenda Items): Director Kelley stated the township has two programs Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and Wayne County weatherization programs for qualifying residents who need assistance with their homes.

A resident inquired about the Fire Chief and Supervisor King stated Mr. Nicholai is no longer employed with Van Buren Township. Further the resident inquired the status of the Animal Ordinances. Supervisor King stated the Public Safety Committee members had further questions regarding the Animal Ordinance and Director Kelley stated the Planning Commission is still working on the Animal Ordinance.

A resident inquired if the new voter precinct maps on the township website could have the precinct numbers on the map. Clerk Payne stated she would work further with IT to see if numbers could be added, noting there is a document on the website denoting the precinct numbers and locations. Also, the resident inquired if the three minute rule would be invoked during announcements? Clerk Payne stated the items had previously been announced twice prior to his announcement [Rules of Conduct allows three minutes for comment] and the resident was given more than five minutes before he was reminded.

A resident commented he did not agree with Clerk Payne invoking [the Board adopted Rules of Conduct] the three minute rule and generally disagreed with the policy and its application and the resident invited people to seek public office. Further, he stated there is oil dumped along Beck Road and commented on the debris left on the road after accidents have been cleared away by tow trucks.

CLOSED SESSION: None.

ADJOURNMENT: Jahr moved, Hart seconded to adjourn at 8:58 p.m. Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Joannie D. Payne, CMC
Township Clerk

Cindy C. King
Supervisor

Publish: April 24, 2008

SPORTS

Mustangs remain undefeated, 12-0

Jeff Novak
Staff Writer

Northville, at an undefeated 12-0, is proving that they are the team to beat in baseball one mercy at a time.

The Mustangs have nine mercies on the books as of last week including three last week.

Northville beat cross-town rival Novi, 15-3, in five innings and Fenton, 16-1, in three innings on Saturday at Novi. Before that they put host Wayne away, 16-3, on Friday.

Those blistering outcomes are due to the team's upper .380s batting average.

It makes things easy when Northville Coach John Kostrzewa has players like senior Damarii Saunderson who was a combined 4-for-5 with six RBIs, including a two-run homer against Novi, in the two games at Novi.

Senior leadoff hitter Matt Deacon scored six runs and was 4-for-5 in two games with an RBI double against the Wildcats. Senior Joe Mitchell was another force against the team's archrival. He

was a perfect 4-for-4 with two doubles, two RBIs and three runs scored in only the one game.

"This is the deepest lineup we've had," Kostrzewa said. "Everybody is contributing. I knew this was going to be the best offense lineup we've had here but I didn't know it would start out this good this fast."

Northville has a lot of new pitchers this year but they are proving to be a solid group.

Saunderson earned the win against Fenton and junior Kevin Fisher came away with a win in his first varsity start against Novi. Mitchell earned the win against Wayne.

Kostrzewa said the team cut down on its walks and errors. The Mustangs only average about three walks every seven innings and dropped their 3-errors a game average to less than one per outing.

"Considering we play a tough schedule and our league is pretty good and all the new guys that we have and all of the new pitchers, I'm pretty pleased with our record

See Mustangs, page 10



Northville's junior leadoff hitter Matt Deacon steals second in a 16-3 victory over host Wayne Memorial on Friday. Northville is an undefeated, 12-0. Most recently they beat Plymouth, 11-3, on Monday. For the full game coverage go to www.journalgroup.com.

Back on track Lady Tigers improve on 2 wins

Jeff Novak
Staff Writer

Last week was just what the doctor ordered for the ailing Belleville Lady Tiger softball squad.

They took two and called it a good week.

Belleville beat a tough Trenton team, 5-4, in nine innings last Monday and mercied Southgate, 11-1, last Wednesday.

The Tigers struggled—mostly at the plate—the previous week with two losses against Kennedy and Monroe. The recent wins improved Belleville to 3-3 over all and 2-2 in the Mega Red.

"We're hitting better," said Belleville Coach Peggy Curtis. "Sam (Cole) is mentally and physically where she wants to be right now. The bats came to life and we were able to score some runs to back her up."

Belleville pulled ahead of Trenton 5-1 at the top of the ninth inning. Trenton scored three runs in the bottom of the frame and had the tying run on second base. Cole came through and struck out their number-three batter to end the game.

Cole finished with 13 strikeouts in the three-hitter. She walked one.

The Tigers battled through four scoreless innings before striking blood. Junior Megan Sierak got on base with a double and junior Casey Porzondek drove her in with a single.

Trenton countered in the sixth

to knot the game, 1-1.

Belleville took advantage of Trenton's four errors in the ninth and scored four runs for the lead.

Senior Danielle Stabnau was 2-for-5 at the plate with an RBI and a run scored. Cole was 2-for-4 with a triple.

Cole pitched another stellar game against Southgate. She hurled a two-hitter and sat down 10 batters, giving up one unearned run. On offense she was a perfect 4-for-4 with three singles and a triple.

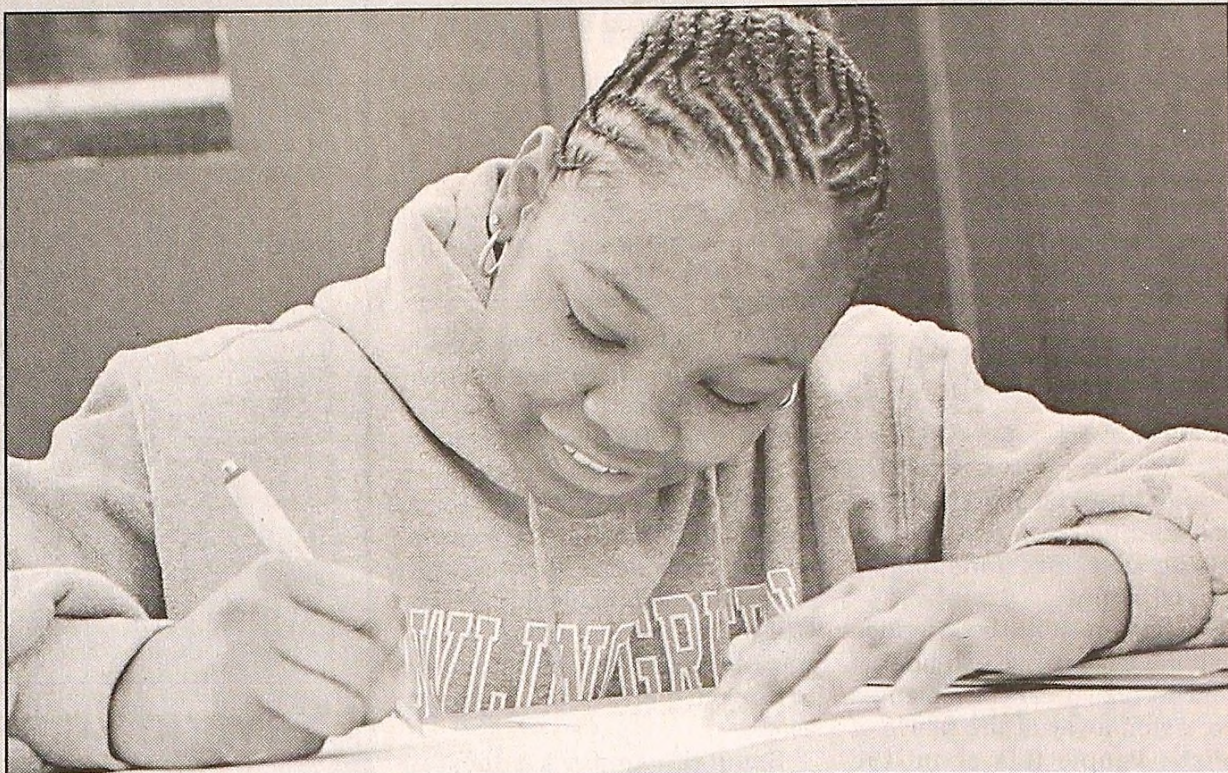
Porzondek had an RBI single in the first inning to get the offense going. Cole singled in the fourth. Curtis put freshman Symone Millet on as a courtesy runner. Millet stole second and Porzondek scored her on a fielder choice bunt to make it a 2-0 game.

Southgate scored their lone run in the top of the fifth but Belleville answered with two more. Belleville kept on swinging in the later rounds and scored seven runs, including a two-run homer in the sixth by junior Angel Matthews, to put the game away.

Senior Jessica Kovach was 2-for-4 at bat.

Belleville is at the Chelsea Tournament on Saturday where the Lady tigers will face teams like Trenton again and Canton and Plymouth.

The Tournament starts at 9 a.m. When they get back they are at Garden City at 4 p.m. on Monday and host Allen Park on at 4 p.m. on Wednesday.



Inkster senior point guard Victoria McGowan signs her letter of intent to play basketball at Bowling Green State University.

Lost then found McGowan signs with Bowling Green

Inkster's Victoria McGowan finally got what she deserved.

The celebrated Lady Viking point guard signed her National Letter of Intent to play basketball on a full athletic scholarship at Bowling Green State University last Wednesday. It was long time coming for a player that was once lost and then was found again.

Although the scholarship is well deserved, BGSU is the true winner in this situation. McGowan averaged 30 points per game with nine rebounds, seven assists and four steals. She scored a career high 44 points against Monroe, setting a new school record for most points scored in a game. She tallied three 40-plus point games this season.

To put it simple McGowan is electric on the basketball court.

With her senior season over and done with and graduation just a few months away, McGowan is ready to head to Falcon land in Ohio.

"I'm pretty excited," McGowan said. "I'm ready to leave and go right now. It's a good school and they have a winning program. I

like the environment and campus and they have good fan support at their games."

Athleticism is just half the battle. The 5-foot-4 guard was just as successful in the classroom as on the hardwood. She is currently ranked 12th in her class of 162 students and maintains a 3.5 grade point average.

"One of the things that I appreciate about Victoria is that she is the utmost student athlete and you have to attribute that a lot to her parents and family for emphasizing what is really important," said Inkster Athletics Director Greg Carter. "We know she will represent us well in college. She will face some challenges in college and I know she will be able to face them."

McGowan already faced and overcame challenges in her high school career. She lost her entire junior season when she transferred out of Inkster in January of her sophomore year and then back to Inkster the September of her junior year. Michigan High School Athletic Association rules dictated that she sit out the first semester, which encompassed

the girls' basketball season, after transferring to a new school. Even though she couldn't compete in them she was at every game, keeping stats. It was a major setback in the early recruiting process.

"She sat out her junior year but worked hard that whole year," said Inkster Coach Peggy Carr. "She practiced every single day and did not miss one single practice. She worked harder than anyone else and did not complain one single time even though I knew she wanted to. When we lost she just looked at me and I looked at her and we just kept going."

When she hit the floor for her senior season in December her performances spoke for themselves. Each game was a beacon of hope that a school would find her and offer her the coveted scholarship.

With the support of Carr and her teammates, McGowan earned placement on the Class B All-State first-team, All-Metro, All-West, and All-Mega

See McGowan, page 10



Olympic ice dancing silver medallists Tanith Belbin and Ben Agosto parted ways with their Canton Township coaches and are moving to Pennsylvania to continue their training for the 2010 Olympics.

Agosto, Belbin leave Canton arena

Jeff Novak
Staff Writer

The U.S. Olympic silver medal ice dance team of Tanith Belbin and Ben Agosto said 'so long' to Canton Township last week and headed for a new beginning in Pennsylvania.

The surprise announcement came just weeks after the duo failed to win a medal in the World Championships last month.

Instead of returning to the Arctic Edge in Canton where the two trained, the five-time U.S. Champions decided to head east to Aston, PA where the coaching duo of Natalia Linichuk and Gennadi Karponosov will guide them through the next stage of their skating careers.

The highly respected Linichuk and Karponosov were the 1980 Olympic ice-dancing champions

and coached numerous former World and Olympic ice-dance champions.

"Natalia and Gennadi are highly accomplished coaches and we are very excited about working with them to take our skating performance to a new level," said Agosto.

Belbin and Agosto said the decision to leave the area was a difficult one but they felt it was necessary to gain fresh input and bring a new perspective to their skating. This move marks an important step in their training and commitment as they aim for the 2010 Winter Olympics in Vancouver.

The ice dancers got their start as a team in the Detroit area where they practiced and trained in Canton and have earned numerous national and international skating honors while training there.

The township even named a street after the duo after their 2006

silver medal performance in Turin, Italy.

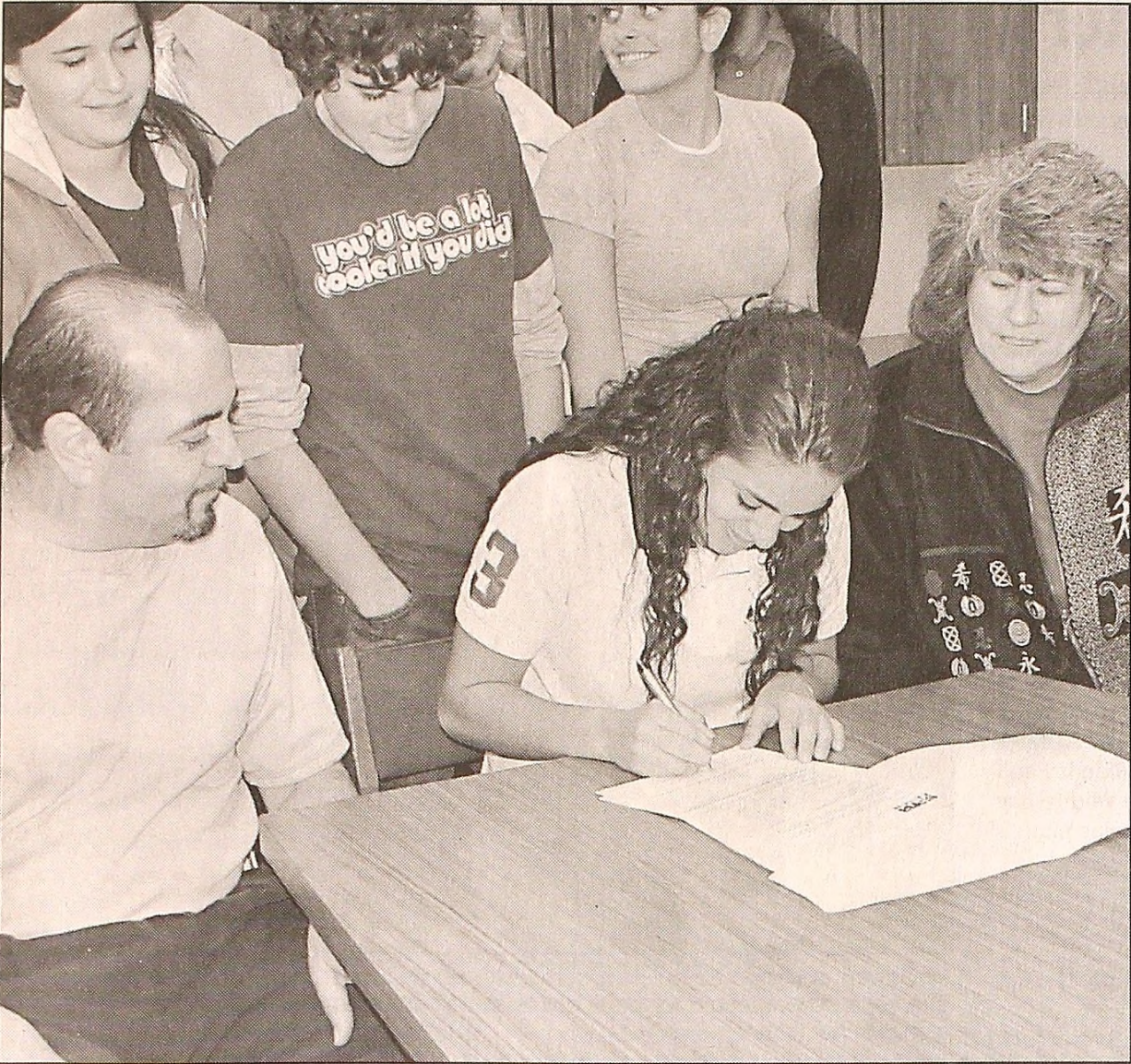
"We will be forever grateful to the city of Detroit for its support and for giving us a terrific home for the past 10 years," said Belbin.

"Detroit will always be like home for us," added Agosto, "but sometimes to grow you need to leave home and explore new opportunities."

Belbin and Agosto spoke warmly of their former coaching team, Igor Shpilband and Marina Zoueva that helped build the team into national champions.

"They are a remarkable coaching pair and we have great admiration for them," Agosto said.

"We never would have achieved our current level of success without Igor and Marina," added Belbin, "and we are very grateful for their friendship and their guidance over the past years."



New Heights

Belleville senior Kendall Acho, flanked by her parents and backed by family and friends, signed her National Letter of Intent to play basketball at Siena Heights University on a full-ride scholarship.



Tigers fall to Titans

Belleville's junior first baseman Kaare Cigan just misses tagging a Southgate runner out at first last Wednesday. Bellville lost the home game, 5-1, and fell to 1-2 in the division. Belleville is at a Saline for a doubleheader starting at 10 a.m. on Saturday. Then they head to Garden City for a 4 p.m. bout on Monday and host Monroe at 4 p.m. on Wednesday.

Glenn Rockets improve to 7-3

Jeff Novak
Staff Writer

Although the John Glenn Rockets split their games last week, they are off to one of their best starts in recent history.

"It is good to win," said Glenn Coach Tom Wakefield. "We are still a little inexperienced when it comes to certain situations. It is rewarding as a coach when you see the players buy into the program and is successful because of it. I hope we can continue to build day to day."

Glenn ended a busy week with a split doubleheader against visiting North Farmington on Saturday—a make-up game from April 2.

The Rockets blasted to a 5-0 lead through five frames but clung to a one-run advantage after giving up four in the sixth inning.

Senior Kevin Lafave hit a solo home run in the second inning. Drew Deluca scored on junior Jacob Sperry's hit in the third. Steven Hickson and Deluca got on base with singles in the fifth. Sperry had an RBI Fielder's choice, Ryan Lopez drilled an RBI double and Kyle Acuna drove in the winning run with a single.

The most notable incident was the return of senior lefty pitcher Chris Kangas to the mound, who was out two weeks with a dislocated right elbow.

"It was great to have him back," Wakefield said. "If you would have told me when the

injury occurred that he would be back in two weeks, I wouldn't have believed anyone. He is a tough kid and loves the game."

North Farmington countered the first-game loss with a 12-1 victory in the second game.

Glenn earned a 2-0 victory against host Walled Lake Central on Friday.

The Rockets relied on the big arm of senior hurler Robert Fraser. He pitched a full game and struck out 11 batters and only walked two. He got the team out of a bases-loaded jam in the fourth frame.

"It was the best game that I have seen him pitch," Wakefield said. "His velocity was there and his off speed pitches were working. He was also mentally strong enough to overcome some situations that could have resulted in a different outcome."

Wakefield is currently working on getting Fraser into Madonna.

Lopez and junior Jerome scales each had a homerun for the games only two scores.

The team's inexperience showed through in a 12-2 loss to non-division foe Canton last Wednesday.

Wakefield likes the progress of the team but feels the they need to stay focused to continue its winning ways.

"We are maturing more as baseball players and learning how to win," he said. "We just can't get complacent and take it for granted. That is when things can turn negative in a hurry."

Glenn is at Walled Lake Northern at 4 p.m. on Friday.

Watch for daily news updates on our website www.journalgroup.com

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN NOTICE OF PUBLIC ACCURACY TEST

In compliance with State Election Law 168 Section 798, a Public Hearing will be conducted on Tuesday, April 29, 2008 at 10:00 a.m. in the Township Hall, 46425 Tyler Road, Belleville, Michigan for the purpose of certifying the program to be used in the counting device which will be utilized to process voter ballots in the Lincoln Consolidated School Election to be held TUESDAY, May 6, 2008. Said meeting is open to the public and any concerned citizens may attend.

The Charter Township of Van Buren will provide, in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, reasonable accommodations with advance notice to the Clerk's Office, 734.699.8909.

Joannie D. Payne, CMC
Township Clerk

Publish: April 24, 2008

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN COUNTY OF WAYNE STATE OF MICHIGAN ORDINANCE NO. 04-01-08(2) AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE ZONING ORDINANCE 6-2-92, AS AMENDED, AND ADD CELL TOWER COLOCATION ADMINISTRATIVE APPROVAL.

Second reading of ordinance for adoption.

An ordinance to amend the Zoning Ordinance 06-02-92, as amended, of the Charter Township of Van Buren; Section 18.09; CELL TOWER COLOCATION ADMINISTRATIVE APPROVAL.

THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN HEREBY ORDAINS:

SECTION 1. ORDINANCE AMENDMENT		
Section 4.31.		
Section 4.31.D.	Application.	ADD
Section 4.31.E.	Application	AMEND
Section 4.31.F.	Application	AMEND
Section 4.31.G.	Application	AMEND
SECTION 2.	Conflicts	ADD
SECTION 3.	Severability	ADD
SECTION 4.	Effective Date	ADD

This ordinance shall be effective upon publication in a newspaper of general circulation within the Township.

This Ordinance is hereby declared to have been adopted by the Township Board of the Charter Township of Van Buren, County of Wayne, State of Michigan, at a Regular Meeting, called and held on the 15th day of April, 2008.

YEAS : Payne, Rochowiak, Budd, Jahr, Hart, Clair and King.
NAYS : None.
ABSENT: None.
ABSTAINED: None.

This Ordinance shall be immediately recorded by the Township Clerk in the Township Ordinance Book as soon as it is adopted, which record shall be authenticated by the signatures of the Supervisor and Clerk and shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the Township within ten (10) days after passage.

I hereby approve the foregoing Ordinance.

Joannie D. Payne, CMC, Clerk
Cindy C. King, Supervisor

Adopted: April 15, 2008
Effective: April 24, 2008
Publish: April 10, 2008
April 24, 2008

CITY OF ROMULUS, MICHIGAN NOTICE TO ELECTORS

TO THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF THE ROMULUS COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT, COUNTY OF WAYNE, STATE OF MICHIGAN:

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT the Annual School Election will be held in the Romulus Community School District, County of Wayne, State of Michigan on Tuesday,

May 6, 2008 from 7:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m., prevailing Eastern Standard Time. The following vacancy for members of the Board of Education will be voted upon in the Romulus Community School District:

TWO (2) FOUR (4) YEAR TERMS

Each person voting on the above must be:

- A) A citizen of the United States of America
- B) A registered elector of the City of Romulus
- C) Eighteen (18) years of age or older.

The Polling Places will be open for voting from 7:00 a.m., to 8:00 p.m. at the following locations:

- Wick Elementary School, 36900 Wick Road, Romulus, MI
- Halecreek School, 16200 Harrison Road, Romulus, MI
- Romulus Elementary School, 32200 Beverly Road, Romulus, MI
- Merriman School, 15303 Merriman Road, Romulus, MI
- Romulus City Hall, 11111 Wayne Road, Romulus, MI
- Mt. Pleasant School, 39000 Superior Road, Romulus, MI
- Romulus Elementary School, 32200 Beverly Road, Romulus, MI
- Romulus Elementary School, 32200 Beverly Road, Romulus, MI
- Cory School, 35200 Smith Road, Romulus, MI
- Mt. Pleasant School, 3900 Wick Road, Romulus, MI
- Merriman School, 15303 Merriman Road, Romulus, MI
- Romulus City Hall, 11111 Wayne Road, Romulus, MI
- Wick Elementary School, 36900 Wick Road, Romulus, MI
- Romulus Elementary School 32200 Beverly Road, Romulus, Michigan
- Halecreek School, 16200 Harrison Road, Romulus, MI
- Cory School, 35200 Smith Road, Romulus, MI
- Romulus City Hall, 11111 Wayne Road, Romulus, MI

Public notice is hereby given as provided for in Section 168.653 of the Michigan Election Law, as amended.

Linda R. Choate, Clerk
City of Romulus, Michigan

Publish: April 24, 2008

SPORTS

Northwestern squeezes by Inkster

Jeff Novak
 Staff Writer

Despite their efforts the Inkster Vikings couldn't pull out a much-needed win against a visiting undefeated Detroit Northwestern last week.

Inkster, trailing by three (8-5) in the bottom of the seventh, strung together a walk and three doubles that would have tied the game and kept the momentum in Inkster's favor, but a controversial call by the umpire called a batter out, negating one of the doubles.

Northwestern won, 8-7. Northwestern beat Inkster, 7-4, the previous week, too. Inkster fell to 1-2 for the season.

Inkster battled back from a two-point first inning deficit with two runs in the third. They snuck ahead, 4-3, with two runs in the fourth.

Northwestern evened things in the fifth with a run and both teams scored in the sixth to set stage for the controversial seventh frame.

Senior Josh Howard was solid on the mound through five innings. He had four

strikeouts. On offense, he went 3-for-4 with a two doubles, a single, two RBIs and two runs.

Senior Renty Rollins stepped to the mound for relief in the sixth and gave up a run there and three more in the seventh. Junior Jaisaun Holt finished out the final frame.

Rollins and senior Derrick Coker each added a double on offense. Reed was perfect with his three at-bats with three singles and two RBIs. Junior Auwin Daryin was 2-for-4 with a two singles on the day.

Inkster Coach Jerome Orr held off playing his regular starters in the game.

"I wanted to give the younger players a chance to play in the last non-league game," he said. "I thought we played well but we're leaving too many men on base.

"Right now I think the team can play with anybody in the league and even some not in the league," he added. "We're still coming together as a team and will be competitive."

Inkster hosts neighboring rival Dearborn Heights Robichaud at 4 p.m. on Monday and are at River Rouge at a 4 p.m. on Wednesday to complete its second week of league play.



McGowan averaged 30 points a game with seven assists, nine rebounds and four steals. She set a school record for most points scored in a game with 43 and has three 40-point games in her career.

Monterrey stalls Ignition

A Golden Goal from Monterrey forward Byron Alvarez knocked the top-seeded Detroit Ignition out of the playoffs on Sunday.

After a tough 15-11 loss to the La Raza de Monterrey on Friday in Mexico, the Ignition tied up the semifinal series with the Stingrays with a 21-2 victory—the teams' largest margin of victory this season—in Game 2 on Sunday at Compuware Arena in Plymouth Township

After a five-minute intermission, the teams faced off in a sudden death Golden Goal mini-match series tiebreaker. Alvarez scored the game-winning shot with just less than four minutes to play in the mini-game.

The expansion La Raza moves on to the MISL Championship Series Final next weekend where they will face the Baltimore Blast.

The MISL Championship Final kicks off at 7 p.m. on Saturday from the U.S. Cellular Arena. The game will be broadcast live on Fox Soccer Channel.

The Detroit Ignition, the regular-season champion, dropped Game 1 of the 2008

MISL Championship Series Semifinal round to the fourth-seeded La Raza.

Hewerton, Mike Apple and Ryan Mack each netted a goal to put the Ignition up 6-2 going into the second quarter.

At 5:14 of the second, Mack put a two-point shot past Monterrey keeper Jose Bonatti to give Detroit a six-point lead. Ivan Paredes added two more points for La Raza, cutting Detroit's lead to four going into halftime.

The score remained at 8-4 until 8:33 of the third quarter, when Monterrey midfielder Victor Negrete booted an unassisted two-pointer past Danny Waltman. Vahid Assadpour countered with an unassisted three-point tally just six seconds later to give Detroit an 11-6 lead at the end of the third.

Alvarez scored his second and third goals of the match to bring La Raza within one. He added a fourth tally to put Monterrey ahead of Detroit for the first time since the start of the match. With 28 seconds to play, Armando Teran sealed the victory for La Raza with a three-point goal that brought the final score to 15-11.

The score remained at 8-4 until 8:33 of the third quarter...

McGowan

FROM PAGE 8

Conference first-team.

"Coach Carr pushed me every day in practice and in the games and helped me get better," McGowan said. "She helped me become more of a leader and team player. If I work hard then I'll be able to start coming in as a freshman"

McGowan garnered attention from Eastern Michigan University, Toledo and Northern Illinois before Bowling Green

came knocking. It was destiny for a player in search of a school and winning program and a university in need of a new floor general.

With the graduation of four-year starting point guard Kate Achter, McGowan has the opportunity to make an immediate impact at BGSU.

"This was a really special day for Victoria but for me as a coach, too," Carr said. "She worked hard and kept the right attitude all of the time. I think she will work hard and earn her spot on the team. I don't think that she will have to sit behind anyone and play right away."

Consider Victoria McGowan found.

Mustangs

FROM PAGE 8

right now," Kostrzewa said, "and we keep improving."

For Monday's results against Plymouth visit www.journalgroup.com.

Northville is at Franklin at 4 p.m. on Friday.

The Mustangs host Allen Park at 11 a.m. and Troy Athens at 2 p.m. on Saturday. The busy week continues with home contests against Walled Lake Western at 4 p.m. on Monday and Churchill at 4 p.m. on Wednesday.

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116. Antique & Classic Cars
117. Trucks & Vans for Sale
118. Freebies
119. Auto Repairs
120. Motorcycles
121. Autos Wanted

1. Obituaries



BARNES, Thelma Jean, age 62, died April 5, 2008. She was born July 27, 1945. She leaves to cherish her memories, her father, Lenard Curry Sr.; her children, Kimberly Cephas (James) of Atlanta, GA, Jimmy Barnes Jr. of Detroit, MI, Tracy Hunt of Detroit, MI and Shawn Barnes (Helen) of Detroit, MI; grandchildren, Tiffany Cephas, Michael (Tisha) Cephas and Alyssa Cephas, all of Atlanta, GA; great grandchildren, Deondre of Texas, Adriana, Kamaya, Tyria and Trey, all of Atlanta, GA; brothers, Johnny Starks (Janet) of Lompoch, CA, Leonard Curry (Pearl) of Detroit, MI and Harry Curry (Victoria) of Lawrenceville, VA; sisters, Janice Willis (Rev. Arthur) of Oak Park, MI, Deborah Jackson (Robert), Sharon Jackson (Raymond) and Darcell P. (Mike), all of Detroit, MI; her god children, Joseph, Caliyah and AJ; and a host of aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, cousins and friends. Thelma was preceded in death by her sisters, Sharon Jackson (Raymond) of Detroit, MI and Stella Rondeau; Harry White, Jr. who was her special friend and 2 special children she raised, James

Hollands and Shawn Letha Hollands. Services were held at Pentecostal Missionary Baptist Church, Romulus, MI with Pastor Arthur C. Willis, Sr. officiating. Interment was at Knollwood Cemetery, Canton, MI. Final arrangements were entrusted to Penn Funeral Home, Inkster, MI.



DOBBINS, Melvin Jr., age 28, died April 8, 2008. He was born July 21, 1979. He is survived by his father, Melvin Dobbins Sr. of Belleville, MI; his mother, Cheryl Dobbins (Cleaves) of Ypsilanti, MI; two brothers, Jerome Damon-Lamont Cleaves of Westland, MI and Rashad Dobbins of Ypsilanti, MI; sister Quonnishella (Gene) Raphael (Dobbins) of Florida; niece, Raelynn Barnes of Westland, MI; nephews, Brandon Cleaves and Patrick Barnes of Westland, MI and Devontay Dobbins and Jeffery Stokes of Florida; loving aunts, Mary Ann Jones of Saginaw, MI and Georgie Davis of Westland, MI; special friends, Stephanie Johnson, Doron Tipton, Martez Wilson, Carla Turner, Derrick Agurs and Jane Parker; and a host of uncles, cousins, other relatives and friends. Services were held at Penn Funeral Home with Pastor

Jeffery Hatcher officiating. Cremation rites were accorded. Final arrangements were entrusted to Penn Funeral Home, Inkster, MI.

EICHOLTZ, Ernest A. April 19, 2008 age 85 of Westland. Beloved husband of Leona. Dear father of Gerald (Janet), Janice (Dennis) Sparks, Donna (the late Larry) Mullins & Jayne (David) George. Loving grandfather of 12 & great grandfather of 10. Predeceased by 2 brothers & 2 sisters. Family received friends at the Uht Funeral Home, Westland and the funeral service was held at St. John Ev. Lutheran Church, Westland, with Rev. David Furno officiating. Burial was at Glen Eden Cemetery, Livonia. Family requests memorials to St. John Air Conditioning Fund. Please visit and sign a tribute at www.uhtfh.com.



GREEN, Clarence James, age 90, died April 7, 2008. He was born November 19, 1917. Clarence was a man of all seasons. He was compassionate and fair, sensible and stern and had a giving spirit. He was opinionated and stubborn and he loved a good debate. He lived what he preached; love and

respect each other, help those less fortunate than you and hold strong to your faith. He leaves to cherish his memory his children, Walter (Martha) of Natchez, Thomas, Theresa, Davis, Dennis, Darcel, Dwight, Dirk (Lisa), Darryl, Darren (Arnette), Darnell (Crystal) and Durrice (Gina); one brother, Thomas Green and one sister, Ellen Hayes, both of Natchez; a sister-in-law, Mary Reed of Detroit; 24 grandchildren, 25 great grandchildren and a host of cousins, nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends. Services were held at Community Baptist Church, Romulus, MI with Rev. Kenneth Greenwade officiating. Interment was at United Memorial Gardens, Plymouth, MI. Final arrangements were entrusted to Penn Funeral Home, Inkster, MI.

OPATKIEWICZ, Edward A., age 90 of Romulus, MI, died April 16, 2008. Dear brother of Jane Pokrywki. He was preceded in death by his brothers Joseph and Stanley Opatkiewicz. Edward was a veteran of the US Army having served during WWII. Mass was held at St. Stephen Catholic Church with Father John Hedges serving as celebrant. The family requests any memorials be sent to Boys & Girls Town. www.cranefuneralhome.com

PARKER, Esther L., age 90 of Romulus, died April 16, 2008. Dear mother of Bernie (beverly), Londie L. and Victor D. Parker. Grandmother of 17 and great grandmother and great-great grandmother of many. Sister of Lorraine (Raymond) Snap. Esther was preceded in death by her husband, James W. Parker, her son, William . Parker, her daughter, Mary M. Nocetti, her brothers, Luther, Amos, Richmond and Evert Bradley, and her sister Irene Humphrey. Services were held at Crane Funeral Home, Romulus, MI with Pastor Steve Adams officiating. Visit cranefuneralhome.net.



SPENCER, Janice Marie, age 62, died March 28, 2008. She was born March 3, 1946. Janice leaves to cherish her memories, her mother, Marietta White; her three children, Marietta, Darylann and Ardriana Spencer; two grandchildren, Latoya Spencer and Jalil Ross; two brothers, Nelson and Rev. Oliver White; sister, Carolyn Mosley; a loving friend, Alfred Black; one brother and sister-in-law, Theodore Mosley and Janet White; a dear friend, Kate Walker, and a host of aunts, uncles, nieces and nephews and friends. Services were

held at Faithway Ministries Inc., Inkster, MI with Bishop Bennie L. Oliphant officiating. Interment was at United Memorial Gardens, Plymouth, MI. Final arrangements were entrusted to Penn Funeral Home, Inkster, MI

30. Help Wanted

Home Health Agency seeking experienced RN's, LPN's, PT's, OT's and Speech. Full/Part time. Sign-on Bonus. Fax resume to: 866-546-8253 or email to: ehuismann@allegiancecare.com

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32. Help Wanted Drivers

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54. Rummage Sales

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Rummage Sale
St. Paul's Church
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May 1 (9-5pm)
May 2 (9-4pm)
May 3 (9-11am)
Furniture, Tools, Household Items
VERY GOOD
Clothing & Misc. Items

55. Estate Sales

ESTATE SALE
4448 Columbus, Wayne
Sat. 4/26 9-4
Sun. 4/27 11-5
Clothing, kitchenware, Knick-knacks, etc

56. Flea Markets

Annual Flea Market
Royal Holiday Park
39500 Warren, Canton
734-459-7934
Fri. (4/25) & Sat. (4/26)
9:00am - 3:30pm
At Club House

59. Auctions

Notice is hereby given that on 5/22/08 at 9:30 am, the following will be sold by competitive bidding at:

Store-It Self Storage
29180 Van Born
Westland, MI 48186:

Unit #B92-Gloria Robinson: Household items, misc. goods; Unit #167-Tiffany Bozeman Household items, misc. goods; Unit #149-Keith D. Bowers: Household items, misc. goods; Unit #129-Joe R. Miller: Household items, misc. goods; Unit #51-Sollie Boone Jr.-Household items, misc. goods

Notice is hereby given that on 5/21/08 at 2:00 pm, the following will be sold by competitive bidding at:

National Storage Center
39205 Ford Rd.
Westland, MI 48185

Unit #159-Anita Casaday: Misc. goods; Unit #220-Deborah Tozer: Household items, misc. goods; Unit #222-Lanthya Garland: Household items, misc. goods; Unit #326-Alexandria Turner: Household items, recreational items, misc. goods; Unit #368-Rick Clink: Household items, misc. goods

Notice is hereby given that on 5/21/08 at 3:00 P.M., the following will be sold by competitive bidding at:

The Storroom Self Storage
40600 Michigan Ave.
Canton, MI

Space #231-Rodney Allen: Household goods, recreational items, misc. goods; Space #314-Walter Claydon: Household goods, misc. goods; Space #509-Gloria Black: Household goods, recreational goods, misc. goods; Space #1217-Household goods, recreational goods, misc. goods; Space #1415-Loch LaMonde Landscaping: Household goods, recreational goods, misc. goods

61. Misc. Items

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